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THE OPPRESSIVE LICENSE LAW OF BRITISH GUIANA.

We beg to call the special attention of our readers to the following Memorial:—

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EARL GREY, HER MAJESTY'S
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES, &c., &c.

MY LORD,—For a considerable time past the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society have had their attention directed to the oppressive character of the license law of British Guiana, and to the necessity of its being so amended as to meet the claims of justice and humanity. Those who suffer most from its operation are those less able, from their position, to appeal effectually against it, or to prevent the perpetuation of the evils of which they complain, but which, nevertheless, they are compelled to endure; they, therefore, naturally look to their friends in Great Britain to bring their case before the home Government, and to the Government to redress their grievances.

On general principles the whole scheme of licensing is open to serious objections, and, in its most restricted application, can only be justified in so far as the public health and welfare may seem to require it; but when it manifestly interferes with the rights of labour and the privilege of locomotion, the public interest and the general convenience, it assumes the form of a public nuisance, which ought to be speedily and effectually abated.

If the object of the license law were merely to raise a revenue for legitimate purposes, it is quite clear that a less exceptionable mode of obtaining it might have readily been found; but it is evident to the Committee that its principal aim is to curtail the rights and privileges of the emancipated classes; to check their industry; to diminish their means of subsistence and improvement; and, practically, to reduce them to the condition of serfs on the plantations, or to drive them backwards into a state of barbarism.

The Committee beg to call your lordship's serious attention to the general character of the law, and to its oppressive and injurious bearing on the labouring population of Guiana. With respect to the first point, the Committee find, (1.) "That every person employing himself in huckstering in the streets of the city of Georgetown, or of the town of New Amsterdam, any goods, wares, merchandise, charcoal, provisions, or refreshments," shall take out a license for the same, for which he must pay the sum of ten dollars. Such license, however, shall not authorise the holder thereof to huckster beyond the boundaries of the said city or town, both of which are of limited extent, and, therefore, the huckster must take out another license to sell the articles already specified in the "rural districts," at an additional cost of ten dollars. The only things for the sale of which a license is unnecessary are "fruit, plantains, bananas, or other vegetables," when vended by the grower thereof, otherwise a license must be procured, and "fresh fish." (2.) The occupier of "any store, shop, or room, in which there shall be exposed for sale any goods, wares, merchandise, drugs, provisions, or refreshments," must take out a license for the sale of the same, at the cost of twenty dollars, provided the income-tax to be paid by such party shall not exceed twenty dollars, in which case the amount paid shall be deducted from the income-tax by the Receiver-General. (3.) The owner of any "colony schooner, sloop, vessel, boat, batteau, corial, or craft," must take out a license for the same, at the following rates—viz., when under twenty feet long, two dollars; from twenty and under thirty feet, four dollars; and above thirty feet, six dollars each. (4.) "The owner of a cart, with or without springs, to ply for hire," must take out a license for the same, if used in the city of Georgetown and the town of New

Amsterdam, at a cost of fifty dollars, and if employed in the "rural districts," at an additional cost of twelve dollars. (5.) "Every person acting as a porter, either in the city of Georgetown or in the town of New Amsterdam, or on board of any ship or vessel, either in the River Demerara, or the River Berbice," must take out a license at a cost of six dollars. These several licenses are to be held for a period of one year.

For non-compliance with, or evasion of the provisions of this law, forfeitures to double the amount of the cost of the several licenses may be exacted for each offence. The penalties which may be inflicted under this law will be found in the following clause of the ordinance:—"And be it enacted, that if any person convicted of any offence against the provisions of this ordinance, and adjudged to pay any penalty, shall refuse or omit to pay such penalty, such person shall be committed to the common gaol, with or without hard labour, for any period not less than six days and not exceeding one month, if such conviction shall have been by one Justice; for any period not exceeding two months, if such conviction shall have been by two or more Justices; for any period not exceeding six months, if such conviction shall have been before an Inferior Court of Criminal Justice; and for any period not exceeding one year, if judgment or sentence shall have been given against any such person by a Supreme Court of Justice, civil or criminal, unless any such penalty shall be sooner paid."

And further, to prevent the infringement of the law, all informers are entitled to receive "one fourth part of the fines, penalties, and forfeitures" incurred by its infraction; and to stimulate the exertions of the police, "one half of the nett proceeds of all fines, penalties, and forfeitures, after paying any informer, and all costs, charges, and expenses, shall belong and be paid to the officer or person who shall detain, seize, and sue the same." The informer or the officer, notwithstanding his interest in the "fines, penalties, and forfeitures" to be inflicted, shall be taken and deemed "a competent witness." It is also enacted, that "any commissary of taxation, member of the police force, or constable, shall have power to detain any person who shall refuse or neglect to produce a license," together "with all goods, wares, and merchandise found upon such person, or under his care or control," and to take such person before a Justice of the Peace, whether local or stipendiary, with a view to his conviction.

From this brief summary it results that every baker, butcher, tailor, shoemaker, tinman, &c., who occupies a "store, shop, or room," and exposes in either of them "any goods, wares, merchandise, charcoal, provisions, or refreshments," must take out a license, the cost of which will be twenty dollars; that if he huckster any of these articles in city or town, whether it be a loaf of bread, a piece of beef, or a pound of salt fish, a pair of shoes, or an article of clothing, a tin kettle, or a piece of earthenware, or whatever else may be useful and necessary, he must take out an additional license, the cost of which will be ten dollars; and if he extend his sales beyond the very limited precincts of the city or town specified, into the "rural districts," he must take out another license, at an additional cost of ten dollars; and, further, in no case is he allowed to employ more than one servant under his license, to vend his goods, whose name must be endorsed thereon. But further, if he cross a river or creek in his corial or boat, in the pursuit of his business, he must take out a license varying in amount from two to six dollars for such craft. It also appears that if the delivery of his goods require the aid of a porter, he must either license his own servants, or employ those who are licensed, to do this necessary work, if he reside in city or town; the cost of a porter's license being six dollars.

These unjust, expensive, and vexatious trammels on the freedom of trade and the right of locomotion can have ultimately but one effect,—viz., that of giving a monopoly of business to the large merchants, storekeepers, and capitalists, and, consequently, to prevent the more humble classes from entering into competition with them, and of gradually forming a business which shall prove equally beneficial to themselves and to their customers. To show the palpable unfairness of the license system in Guiana, the Committee call your lordship's attention to the fact, that in the case of those storekeepers who pay an income-tax equal to, or above the value of the store license, say twenty dollars, the value of such license is to be deducted from the income-tax, and, consequently, they obtain their licenses for nothing, whilst the petty tradesman is subjected to the full weight of this heavy impost. And your lordship will also perceive that whilst the batteau or corial of the labourer is taxed, and subjected to a variety of vexatious regulations, the horses, chaises, and carriages of the dominant party are relieved altogether from taxation. Such partiality in the application of a fiscal law must necessarily create disgust, if it do not engender a worse feeling, in the minds of the people. The Committee cannot believe that your lordship will continue to sanction such proceedings as these.

From the foregoing summary it also results, that the humbler classes cannot engage in a variety of useful, necessary, and honourable employments, without previously arming themselves with licenses; that they cannot, for instance, make a batch of bread for the common advantage, and sell a portion of it to their neighbours without a license; that they cannot dispose of the surplus of a pig or a goat which they may kill, or any poultry they may have reared, without a license; in fact, they can sell nothing, either in town or country, whether it result from their skill or their industry, except "fruit, plantains, bananas, and fresh fish," without a license; and this exemption they are permitted to enjoy with the large plantain growers, because the operation of the late license law, in this particular, was found to curtail the supply of the necessities of life to such an extent as to render them extravagantly dear to all classes of the community. Almost the only occupations for which licenses do not appear to be required under the present law, are those of agricultural labourers and menial servants. Any one aspiring to an employment above these, even to be a common porter in city or town, must pay for it. But, in addition to the cost of the licenses required, the people are constantly liable to the vexatious, and sometimes malicious interference of informers, not always the most scrupulous members of society; and to the constant, and sometimes insolent surveillance of the police force, whose interest it is made to watch the people, in the hope of obtaining rewards in the shape of "fines, penalties, and forfeitures," and who are protected from all consequences to themselves under the convenient plea of what is termed "the discharge of their duty."

From this summary it further results, that the right of locomotion to the labouring population is greatly impeded and curtailed. Every boat, batteau, corial, or craft, no matter how employed, whether for hire or otherwise, must be licensed, the payment for which varies, according to their size, from two to six dollars. Now the rivers and creeks of Guiana are its great highways, and the boat or corial is as necessary to its people as are their legs; indeed, they are not unfrequently so designated in the colony. Now, to require a license for such a craft, appears to the Committee to be both shameful and cruel, and displays an *animus* of the worst kind. The intention of this enactment is evidently to confine the people, as much as possible, within certain limited districts; and should they go beyond them, to make them pay for the privilege. One of the effects of this law is to deny, in many, if not in most instances, to the residents on the west banks of the Demerara and Berbice rivers, all access to the markets at Georgetown and New Amsterdam, besides, in a thousand other ways, to interfere with their convenience and comfort. It interferes, moreover, with the free circulation of labour; for the peasant on one side of a river or creek cannot go to the other to seek for better wages or a more suitable employer, without paying for it. Nothing can justify this. But the Committee further observe, that the restrictions which this law imposes on the rights of locomotion and labour are aggravated by the mode in which the law can be enforced. The labourer may have his boat or corial seized when the license is either lost, or, from some accident or other, not immediately forthcoming, and then he must suffer the loss of time consequent upon detention, the expense connected with witnesses, &c., &c.; and thus he is perpetually liable to be impeded in the pursuits of industry or recreation, and to be

subjected to an irritation of mind which greatly indisposes him towards the masters as a class. To remove this and other just causes of complaint is, in the judgment of the Committee, an urgent and necessary duty.

Lastly, from this summary results the painful fact, that non-compliance with a fiscal regulation, partial and oppressive in its character, is confounded, in the nature of the punishments which it entails, with criminal offences; and thus the great moral distinctions between right and wrong are broken down. Your lordship will perceive that punishments, ranging from six days to one year of imprisonment in gaol, *with* or without hard labour, may be inflicted on offenders under the license law; and, as a consequence, there may be constantly seen at work in the same penal gang, clothed in the gaol dress, those who are convicted of an infraction of the license law, and are unable either in whole or in part to pay the fines inflicted, with thieves and other misdemeanants, sentenced to penal labour. It is in vain, my lord, to talk of elevating any people under such circumstances, with such sights before them as these. To place in the same penal gang the man who has used his corial without a license, who has sold a loaf of bread, a piece of fresh meat, or a pair of shoes, or any other useful article, without a license, with the hardened offender whose crimes deserve a severe punishment, is the right way to destroy all self-respect in the one, and to lead the other to believe himself less guilty than the law has pronounced him to be.

Looking at the partial and oppressive operation of many laws now in force in Guiana, at the nature of the penalties inflicted for opposite classes of offences, confounding, as they do, the distinctions of right and wrong, the Committee, whilst they deeply regret, are not surprised to find that Governor Barkly complains that many prisoners in the gaol seem to have lost all sense of the degradation which their punishment involves; and that he recommends recourse to the whip to awaken their dormant sensibilities. The Committee have no faith in the virtues of the whip, when so applied, but they have great faith in laws founded in equity and justice, which teach the great distinctions between what is morally right and what is morally wrong, and which make a difference in the punishments which they inflict on the man who from ignorance or poverty violates such a law as that to which your lordship's attention has now been called, with the man who commits a gross trespass on the property, or acts of violence on the persons of others.

The Committee have not dwelt on that part of the license law which enacts that a sum of ten dollars shall be paid by every person who "carries or uses any fowling-piece, rifle, or other gun," although they consider it to be an oppressive tax on the labouring classes, who require such weapons for the destruction of wild animals, such as tigers, wild hogs, deer, and vermin, which frequently infest their holdings, as well as for other necessary and legitimate purposes. The Committee are aware of the plea originally set up in justification of this tax, but, inasmuch as it is no longer of force, they submit that it is expedient it should be abandoned.

In reference to those portions of the law which relate to the sale of ardent spirits, to public billiard tables, and to places of public entertainment and amusement, the Committee make no remarks, as their utility must be measured by the evils which they are supposed to prevent. But they do most earnestly request that your lordship will direct your early attention to the law on which they have now felt it to be their duty to animadvert. Except by the dominant class in the colony, who have the entire legislative power in their own hands, its injustice is generally admitted, and its oppressive character severely felt. On these grounds the Committee respectfully ask your lordship to assimilate the license laws of British Guiana with those of this country, so far as the circumstances of the case may seem to require it, and peremptorily to refuse your sanction to those portions of the Guiana law which make food scarce and dear, which interrupt the natural development of industry, and which, in many intolerable ways, circumscribe the just rights and privileges of the people.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

(On behalf of the Committee,)

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN SCOBLE, Secretary.

Anti-slavery Office, 27, New Broad-street,
London, 13th Sept., 1850.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.

In connexion with the Report of the Lords' Committee on the slave-trade, we gave, in the last number of the *Reporter*, extracts from the correspondence of British functionaries residing in Brazil and the Havana, with Lord Palmerston, from which it appeared clearly that the traffic in human beings, during the year 1849, had undergone no decrease; but, on the contrary, had rather increased upon the preceding three years. From those reports we gather that the number of slaves landed in the province of Rio was estimated at 45,980, and in the province of Bahia, 8,081. The consul at Para gives it as his opinion that no importation of slaves had taken place in that province during the year. The consul at Paraiba says—"I do not know of any contraband slaves having been brought into this province during the year, although the importations to the southward have been on a very extensive scale." The consul at Pernambuco gives lists of the arrivals from, as well as departures of vessels for Africa, but gives no particulars beyond the statement of his conviction that some of them were engaged in the slave-trade. The departures were thirteen, all of whom were laden with cargoes suitable for the slave-trade; the arrivals were four, and one of these the consul thinks was engaged in legitimate trade. There is no report from Rio Grande do Sul, although it is known the slave-trade with that province has been particularly active of late years.

The British Commissary Judge at the Havana states, that "the total number of persons brought into slavery may be stated, in round numbers, to be 9,000 for the year 1849." There are no reports from Porto Rico.

Now, putting these figures together, we have the following result, viz. :—

Import of slaves into Rio.....	45,980
" " Bahia.....	8,081
" " Cuba.....	9,000
Total.....	63,061

Without any addition for those imported into Pernambuco or Rio Grande do Sul, or into Porto Rico, though no doubt several thousands might fairly be added for these several places. It will be seen, then, from these several statements, that the presence of the squadron on the African coast has not hitherto checked the traffic, but that it has kept pace with the demand for slaves in Brazil and the Spanish colonies.

The following extracts are taken from Reports made to Government by British functionaries and officers, relative to the activity of the slave-trade in the particular quarter from which they write :—

SIERRA LEONE.

I have the honour to present to your lordship my annual report on the state of the slave-trade on the western coast of Africa, during the year ending this day. I beg also to take the liberty of making such remarks for your lordship's information as the now favourable progress of the cause of abolition enables me to state; but I fear that my communication will not go to that extent which your lordship may expect. On account of the Acts of 2 and 3 Viet., c. 73, and 8 and 9 Viet., c. 122, all the prize-vessels brought into Sierra Leone this year for adjudication have been taken before the Vice-Admiralty Court of the colony, which of course prevents my obtaining so much information as I should have done, had they been brought before the Mixed Commission Courts.

During the year just closing, no case has come before the British and Netherlands, British and Spanish, British and Chilian, British and Bolivian, British and Argentine, and British and Uruguayan Mixed Courts of Justice.

There were no slaves emancipated by the Mixed Courts during this year.

The total number of cases prosecuted before the Mixed Commissioners, since their establishment here in June, 1819, up to the present date, is 529; whereof 502 were cases of condemnation, and twenty-seven were either withdrawn, dismissed, or restored to the claimants. In the same period, there have been emancipated, by these Mixed Courts, 64,625 slaves, of whom 56,935 have been registered here.

In obedience to your lordship's instructions, I have the honour herewith to transmit an official copy, obtained from his Honour the Chief Justice, of a return of vessels captured on suspicion of

being engaged in the slave-trade, and which have been adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court of Sierra Leone, between the 30th of June and the 31st of December, amounting to eleven; which, with the eleven adjudicated in the same Court during the previous half-year, give a total of twenty-two vessels adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court of Sierra Leone, in the year 1849, under Acts of 5 Geo. IV., c. 113; 2 and 3 Viet., c. 73, and 8 and 9 Viet., c. 112.

Of these twenty-two vessels adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court during 1849, fifteen were captured under the Brazilian flag, and seven either without flag or national papers; and three under the Brazilian colours had, on the aggregate, 1,814 slaves when captured. All the other vessels were cases of equipment.

The above-named captures took place in the following localities :—Sixteen were seized within 6° north of the Equator, four within 9° south, one in latitude 15° 6' south, and longitude 11° 18' east, and one in latitude 24° 33' south, and longitude 45° 45' west.

The number of slaves so captured during 1849 was 1,814, of whom 1,722 were decreed emancipation, ninety-two having died before such decree was passed.

Your lordship will, perhaps, be surprised at finding such a great falling off in the number of captures and slaves found on board during the year just ending. In 1849, only twenty-two vessels, having on board 1,810 slaves, have been captured and adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court here; while in the year 1848, thirty-one vessels, having on board, when captured, 5,619 slaves, were adjudicated.—*Appendix to the Report of the Lords' Committee on the Slave-trade, 1850, pp. 157, 158.*

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have the honour to report to your lordship that, to the best of our belief, the slave-trade has been on the increase upon the east coast of Africa during the year 1849.

The reports to this effect, which we had the honour to lay before your lordship in our despatch, No. 15, of March 30th last, and which were corroborated by Captain Watson, of her Majesty's ship *Brilliant*, have been still further confirmed by information recently received, though we have not been able to procure particulars relative to the persons engaged, or the number of cargoes actually despatched.

No vessel has been adjudicated by the Court of Vice-Admiralty during the last year; but Captain Hyde Barker, of her Majesty's ship *Pantaloön*, has recently sent in a barque, the *Revoama*, taken off Quillimane, in November last, which, we understand, has every appearance of being fully equipped for the slave-trade, and was commanded by a person formerly captured in command of a slave vessel. Another vessel had escaped about the same time, with about 800 slaves on board.

The boats of her Majesty's ship *Dee* having been fired upon by the piratical slave dealers in the Angosha river, on November 19th last, when searching for slavers, attacked that settlement and destroyed, apparently, a new vessel which was lying hauled up upon the beach, and which it was supposed was built for slave-trading purposes. The enemy's loss was estimated at about 200, besides the destruction of a stockade and battery.

We regret that we are unable to give your lordship anything like an accurate estimate of the number of slaves exported from the Mozambique during the year past; and that we cannot state more precisely to what extent the slave-trade in that quarter has been carried on; very opposite accounts reach us upon these points, owing, no doubt, to the mist cast over the real state of things by the slave dealers. Our belief, however, as above stated, is, that the traffic has been very brisk.—*Ibid. p. 164.*

BRAZIL.

H.M.S. "Cormorant," off St. Catherine's.

With reference to the intelligence respecting the traffic in slaves on the coast of Brazil, the experience of my late inspection of the neighbourhood of the island of St. Sebastian enables me to state to you the open and glaring manner in which it seems to be carried on in that island.

By the appearance of the buildings on the west side of it, and the number of canoes on the beach, it would appear that it is inhabited by people who make the removal of slaves along the coast their trade, active steamers and coasters being constantly on those straits between St. Sebastian Island and the Main.

In many of the little sandy bays on the coast are buildings like barracoons, and boats hauled up; and in Sombrico, besides the slave receptacles at the head of the bay, near the two islands, there is

in a beautiful land-locked creek, where I anchored in seven fathoms, a slave establishment, which, on examining, proved to contain spare coppers, open hatches, leaguers, &c., ready for vessels; chains in the rocks for mooring close to, and on the hill above a rope-walk. We found no inhabitants there during our stay.

I was informed, from an authentic source, on the 6th instant, that the brig *Lucifer*, one of the vessels I reported to you as expected to arrive in the neighbourhood of St. Sebastian, had, on the previous Wednesday (the 2nd instant), after a tedious voyage from Mozambique, fetched that part of the coast of Brazil near Ilho Grande, when being apprised by the *Serpente* steamer of our position near St. Sebastian, she at once pushed on shore, and landed the surviving 200 of her sickly slaves, and then proceeded to Cape Frio.

When in the middle of coaling and taking in provisions for the *Southampton*, on the 8th instant, I learnt that the *Serpente* steamer had just embarked, near the entrance of Rio harbour, under the very eyes of the Brazilian authorities, 750 slaves, taken out of the barque *Del Mundo*, alias *Anonyma* (also reported to you by me as expected), on or near, as I can learn, the very spot I had been awaiting her till within two days of her arrival, when I left in consequence of your orders received by the *Harpy*. She was 61 days out, is 398 tons burthen, high and short, has quarter boats, and wore American colours in disguise when chased.

On discharging her cargo, she went to the island of Abrigo and anchored, I am told; but not being there when I went to look for her, on my way to Monte Video, I suppose she had slipped into Cavança, or some creek in the neighbourhood.

It seems these two vessels left Quillimane together; the barque taking the round outside the island of Madagascar, accounts for her later arrival; and the result of the time of the arrival on this coast of the *Santa Cruz*, *Lucifer*, and *Del Mundo*, shows the correctness of the information respecting them, which was given to her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, had not the activity of the *Serpente*, and unavoidable circumstances, prevented the interception of their cargoes.

With respect to the "sealed manifests," as in the case of the *Hannibal*, boarded by me, reported in my letter of proceedings, I understand several of the Brazilian vessels have only sealed up manifests, directed to authorities at the port to which they profess to be bound. It is, therefore, impossible to deal satisfactorily with such vessels, although they are all very suspicious; and, I believe, most of those under Sardinian colours change owners and become slavers.

Of the crew of the *Paulina*, captured by me, I learn that the Brazilian, who is gone to St. Helena as the master, is the paper-master only, or first-mate, in reality; and that a respectable looking Italian, named Vincente Madalene, a native of Ancona, but resident with his family at Rio, is the actual captain, and he seemed an experienced hand. He remarked that the Brazilian ministers had slaves themselves, and that the English houses at Rio, particularising Maxwell's, by their imports chiefly supported the slave-trade.

The owner of the *Paulina* was also on board, named J. C. Ramos. He told me, on inquiry, that he was brother to the owner of the *Serpente*. There are also two other brothers, residents on the coast of Africa. When at Rio, I understood that the *Serpente* Ramos had just purchased an American whaler for the slave-trade.

While on this subject, it may not be amiss to point out for your consideration the facility of retarding the movements of her Majesty's steam vessels, afforded by a coal contract being in the hands of noted slave dealers, suggesting that the temptation may sometimes be too strong for the parties who may have to coal simultaneously steamers notoriously employed in assisting the slave-trade, and her Majesty's steam vessels actively engaged in suppressing it.

I understood, from Mr. Hudson, that the large ship expected off St. Sebastian, between this date and the 25th inst., is the last vessel expected from the Mozambique at present; but that several may be expected to the northward at the end of January and in February. (15th January, 1850.)—*Ibid.* pp. 166, 177.

BAHIA.

From a late number of a Bahia paper, called the *Seculo*, we learn the following particulars as to the extent of the slave-trade during the month of July last:—Bahia, July 4, 1850. The sloop *Gira Sol*, with 190 slaves, went to the wharf of —, on the 1st inst. July 9. The lugger *Polka* entered on the 7th, bringing 170 slaves July 27. The schooner *Fe* arrived with 350 slaves.

THE TERRITORIAL BILLS—NEW MEXICO AND TEXAS.

The following are the provisions of the Act passed on the sixth of September by the House of Representatives, for the settlement of the boundary between New Mexico and Texas:—

"A Bill, proposing to the State of Texas the establishment of her Northern and Western boundaries, the relinquishment by said State of all territory claimed by her exterior to said boundaries, and of all her claims upon the United States.

"Be it Enacted, &c. That the following propositions shall be, and the same hereby are offered to the State of Texas, which, when agreed to by the said State in an Act passed by the General Assembly, shall be binding and obligatory upon the United States and upon the said State of Texas; provided, that said agreement by the said General Assembly shall be given on or before the first day of December, 1850.

"First. The State of Texas will agree that her boundary on the north shall commence at the point at which the meridian of 100 degrees west from Greenwich is intersected by the parallel of 36 degrees and 30 minutes north latitude, and shall run from said point due west to the meridian of 103 degrees west from Greenwich; thence her boundary shall run due south to the 32d degree of north latitude; thence on the said parallel of 32 degrees of north latitude to the Rio Bravo del Norte; and thence with the channel of said river to the Gulf of Mexico.

"Second. The State of Texas cedes to the United States all her claims to territory exterior to her limits and boundaries, which she agrees to establish by the first article of this agreement.

"Third. The State of Texas relinquishes all claim upon the United States for liability for the debts of Texas, and for compensation or indemnity for the surrender to the United States of her ships, forts, arsenals, custom-houses, custom-house revenue, arms and munitions of war, and public buildings, with their sites, which became the property of the United States at the time of the annexation.

"Fourth. The United States, in consideration of said reduction of boundaries, cession of territory, and relinquishment of claims, will pay to the State of Texas the sum of ten millions of dollars, in a stock bearing five per cent. interest, and redeemable at the end of fourteen years, the interest payable half-yearly at the Treasury of the United States.

"Fifth. Immediately after the President of the United States shall have been furnished with an authentic copy of the Act of the General Assembly of Texas, accepting these propositions, he shall cause the stock to be issued in favour of the State of Texas, as provided for in the fourth article of this agreement.

"Provided also, That five millions of said stock shall not be issued until the creditors of the said State, holding bonds of Texas, for which duties on imports were specifically pledged, shall first file, at the Treasury of the United States, releases of all claims against the United States for or on account of said bonds."

This Bill passed the Senate by a vote of 30 to 20, but so much of it as carries the boundary of Texas north to 36° 30' was barely carried by a vote of 25 to 24, for substituting the Clay Compromise Boundary, which carried Texas at no point above the parallel of 34° north. Messrs. Cass, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, and Sturgeon, of Pa., (and on a subsequent vote, Messrs. Bright and Whitcomb, of Ind.,) voted with the ultra South to turn the intermediate 25,000 square miles over from free-soil to slavery. That vote secures the ultimate erection of two more slave States out of Texas, when, but for it, one of them would have been formed from New Mexico, and been free.

NEW MEXICO.

The Bill organising New Mexico as a territory of the United States passed the Senate on the 15th ult., and was spliced to the above (Boundary) Bill in the House on the 5th instant, by 106 to 99. This Bill is very long, and consists mainly of the usual provisions, (for which see any Act organising a U. S. Territory.) The following are its more material provisions:—

"The first section of this Bill enacts that all that portion of territory of the United States bounded as follows, to wit:—Beginning at a point in the Colorado River, where the boundary line of the Republic of Mexico crosses the same; thence eastwardly with said boundary line to the Rio Grande; thence following the main channel of said river to the parallel of the 32nd degree of north latitude; thence eastward with said degree to its intersection with the 103rd degree of longitude west from Greenwich; thence north with said degree of longitude to the parallel of the 38th degree of north latitude; thence west with said parallel to the summit of the Sierra Madre; thence south with the crest of said mountains to the 37th parallel of north latitude; thence west with the said parallel to its intersection with the boundary line of the State of California; thence with the said boundary line to the place of beginning; be,

and the same is hereby, erected into a temporary Government by the name of the territory of New Mexico. Provided, That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to inhibit the Government of the United States from dividing said territory into two or more territories, in such manner and at such times as Congress shall deem convenient and proper, or from attaching any portion thereof to any other Territory or State. Provided, further, That when admitted as a State, the said territory, or any portion of the same, shall be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission.

"The seventeenth section enacts that the provisions of this Bill be suspended until the disputed boundary between the United States and the State of Texas shall be adjusted; and when such adjustment shall have been effected, the President of the United States shall issue his proclamation, declaring this Act to be in full force and operation, and shall proceed to appoint the officers herein provided to be appointed for the said territory."

The above two conjoined Bills, after being decisively rejected, passed the House on Friday, Sept. 6th, by a vote of 108 to 98, and their conjunction was assented to by the Senate on Monday, and the double Bill thus passed. It was signed by the President on Monday, the 9th, and is now the law of the land.

CALIFORNIA.

The California Admission Bill passed the Senate, August 13th, by the decisive vote of 33 yeas to 16 nays—(all the nays from Slave States, and all Loco-Focos but Messrs. Berrien of Ga. and Morton of Fla.) It passed the House, Sept. 7th, after an ineffectual attempt to couple it with the Utah Bill, by the decisive vote of yeas 150, nays 57—(all the nays from Slave States: 48 of them Loco-Focos to 9 Whigs.) The following is the Bill:—

"A Bill for the admission of the State of California into the Union.

"Whereas, the people of California have presented a constitution and asked admission into the Union, which constitution was submitted to Congress by the President of the United States, by message, dated February thirteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty, and which, on due examination, is found to be Republican in its form of Government:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the State of California shall be one, and is hereby declared to be one, of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever.

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That until the Representatives in Congress shall be apportioned according to an actual enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, the State of California shall be entitled to two Representatives in Congress.

"Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said State of California is admitted into the Union upon the express condition that the people of said State, through its Legislature or otherwise, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the public lands within its limits, and shall pass no law, and do no act, whereby the title of the United States to, and right to dispose of, the same shall be impaired or questioned; and they shall never lay any tax or assessment of any description whatever upon the public domain of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors, who are citizens of the United States, be taxed higher than residents; and that all the navigable waters within the said State shall be common highways, and for ever free, as well to the inhabitants of said State as to the citizens of the United States, without any tax, impost, or duty therefor. Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as recognising or rejecting the propositions tendered by the people of California as articles of compact in the ordinance adopted by the convention which formed the constitution of that State."

UTAH.

The Utah Bill (all that was saved out of the wreck of the Omnibus) passed the Senate on Aug. 1st, and the House on Sept. 7th. It merely defines the boundaries of Utah, situated in the great Central Basin of our continent, and provides for its organisation as a territory of the Union. It passed the Senate by thirty-two to eighteen, (all the nays from free States but two, and generally hostile to the Bill, only because it contained no inhibition of slavery.) The House concurred on Saturday, Sept. 7, by a vote of ninety-seven to eighty-five; the nays being mainly Northern men, who opposed the Bill for its lack of a slavery inhibition as aforesaid, but mixed with these were thirteen ultra-Southerners, who objected to the Bill, because it does not provide for the security of slaves as property, in the territory.

All these Bills respecting the territories have passed both Houses, and were signed at once by the President; so that California is now a State of the Union, and her senators and representatives may take their seats unquestioned.

THE FINALE.

The House of Representatives did another hard day's work on Saturday. The California Admission Bill, and the Utah Territorial Organisation Bill were both passed through all stages, just as they came from the Senate, and now only await the President's signature to render them laws of the land. California finally passed, by the decisive vote of 150 to 57; and Utah, by 97 to 85. A motion to affix the Wilmot Proviso to the latter was defeated by 78 to 60.

All the measures embodied in the defeated "Omnibus" have thus received the sanction of both Houses. Their only essential alteration is that of the boundary between New Mexico and Texas, whereby 25,000 square miles were taken from the former and given to the latter. All that remains to be done by either House is the sanction by the Senate of the junction of its Texas boundary, and New Mexico Territorial Organisation Bills by the House. No doubt that will be assented to, and all the Bills signed by the President. We presume the senators and representatives from California will then be admitted to their seats.

The Bills, as passed, provide as follows:—

1. That the northern boundary of Texas shall be the parallel of 36° 30' north latitude for three degrees of longitude westward from the old line between the United States and Mexico, or to the 103rd meridian of longitude due west from Greenwich; thence follow that meridian down to the 32nd parallel of latitude; thence due west to the Rio Grande, which is made the westerly limit of Texas thence to its mouth. As a compensation for surrendering her claims to territory north of this line, Texas is to receive ten millions of dollars, in five per cent. bonds of the United States, whereof five millions are made specifically applicable to the payment of the public debt of Texas.

2. New Mexico, including all the territory acquired from Mexico north and west of the above line, east of the Rio Grande, and all of said territory west of said river, is organised into a regular territory, for which officers are to be appointed, and courts organised, as for other territories of the United States.

3. All the territory acquired by the United States from Mexico, lying westward of New Mexico, as aforesaid, and east of California, is organised into another territory, under the appellation of Utah. (This territory includes the Salt Lake region, or Great Central Basin of our continent; in which the Mormons have set up their Ebenezer.)

4. California is admitted into the Union as a State, with her chosen boundaries and her free constitution; so that her two senators and two members already chosen may take their seats forthwith.

5. The territories of New Mexico and Utah, as aforesaid, are to be admitted into the Union as States, with or without slavery, as their people shall decide. Now we know that they will both decide against slavery, promptly, surely, emphatically; but it would not be a bad thing to be sure of it. The Anti-slavery Proviso in these Bills would have been a great damper on the passion for Cuba expeditions and Mexico hunting parties, where-with the acquisition of Texas and its consequences have debauched the south and south-west.

THE CASE OF MR. WM. L. CHAPLIN.

In the account we published of this case in our last, which we took from an American paper, it was stated that W. L. Chaplin, in order to save himself from arrest, had fired a pistol at one of his assailants; but this, we are pleased to learn, is untrue. We take the following particulars from the Washington correspondence of the *New York Tribune*.

"The statements of this case in the Washington papers—even that of the *Republic* itself, which was the fullest and fairest—were all made on the authority of pretended "officers" who made the arrest. Hence, as usual, they were one-sided, and specially coloured by the pro-slavery prejudices, or actual interest, of the narrators. In a slaveholding community like this, the friend of the poor wronged slave is always subjected to undue prejudices, no matter what his course may be. But in this case of Chaplin there was a particular reason for taking the statements of his accusers with allowance. Two or three of them were not "officers" at all, but slave dealers and slave catchers, directly interested. In one of them, the ownership, in fact, of one of the slaves alleged to have been found in the possession of Chaplin was vested, he having 'bought him running,' as the phrase is; and yet his testimony has gone forth as a guardian of the law! Let us examine into one of these statements in

particular—that which ascribes not only the use of arms, but the initiative—in other words, that Chaplin fired the first shot, and thus commenced the bloody work which the riddled carriage shows to have been enacted. Now it will turn out that Chaplin not only did not fire the first shot, and that he never fired at all, but that the shooting, on the part of the assailed, was done by the slaves—there being much less of it on their part than on the part of the assailants—Chaplin, as I understand it, had not time to fire a pistol. Simultaneously with the ‘checking’ of the wheels and seizing of the horses, he was stricken a heavy blow, which Buts (one of the slave dealers or catchers), I understand, confesses, or rather boasts, that he inflicted. The next moment he found himself on the ground, throttled and belaboured by two or three of these men, in the most ferociously brutal manner, so much so that he had good reason to apprehend that their intent was murder outright. It is believed that they would have murdered him, if he had not appealed to Captain Goddard; and he, I understand, is now denounced by the tigers as an ‘abolitionist,’ because he did interfere. And yet these are they who have made the complaint of assault and battery, with intent to kill, on the strength of which a requisition has been made for him by the Government of Maryland! If the testimony of such witnesses, under such circumstances, is to prevail, even in a pro-slavery Maryland court, then may justice be said to have fled the tribunals of the law, utterly. Such a course would convert court trials into the cruellest farces imaginable.

“But the fact happens to be that Mr. Chaplin is a ‘peace man,’ and therefore the story of the resort to violence on his part has done him great injustice, calculated, as it was, to undermine and destroy the confidence of his friends at home.”

The *New York Evangelist* has the following article in relation to this affair:—

“One of those scenes of violence and terror has just transpired at the city of Washington, the like of which we must be prepared to endure as long as that mother of disturbances, slavery, is suffered to exist. As a natural consequence of converting the capital of a nation into a mart for the sale of slaves, and the high price which this species of property has lately held in the Southern market, a great uneasiness has existed among the slave population of the district for some time. The number of slaves who have escaped to the free States from the district has probably been greater during the present session of Congress than any previous period of equal length. An atrocious case of the slave-trade, which tore from an intelligent and respectable man, who had been coachman to three presidents, his wife and children, and consigned them to hopeless bondage, appears to have excited four slaves belonging to Messrs. Toombs and Stephens, of the House of Representatives, to the desperate attempt to get their freedom. They found a warm sympathiser in the heart of William L. Chaplin, than whom a purer, more honest, or more truly benevolent man we never knew. He appears to have given the fugitives first concealment, and then the means of escape, not withholding his own personal assistance and presence. His agency in the affair being suspected, he was dogged and watched till, in attempting to escape with the four fugitives on Thursday night, the party were overtaken near the city by an armed body of police, and after a desperate resistance, in which one of the slaves was killed, and another badly wounded, were overpowered and arrested. The dread of the bondage to which these slaves were to be restored must have been terrible indeed, for they are said to have fought like lions, and apparently resolved to surrender to their tyrants only with life. The hack in which they rode was riddled with balls and hewed with bowie knives during the struggle. It cannot be a very righteous or humane condition from which men will run such terrible risks to free themselves. And those men whose ownership, worse than Algerine bondage, these poor fugitives so much dreaded, are the representatives of a free people, under a constitution enacted for the establishment of just laws and equal liberty.”

From the *American Baptist*, published at Utica, N.Y., we copy the following remarks:—

“Widely different views will be taken by different observers of the case of Mr. Chaplin, according to the moral stand-point from which it is contemplated. Men who know nothing of any higher law than the constitution, and who hold that instrument to be a guarantee for human bondage, may regard him as a criminal of the highest grade. Men, on the other hand, who revere the Divine law, and who believe human laws and constitutions, so far as they contravene it, to be without force, would perhaps look upon him as a martyr in the cause of truth and right. The former load his name with execrations; the latter will deem him worthy of distinguished honours. The former may speak exultingly of his capture, as the arrest of a ‘kidnapper;’ the latter will think of it sorrowfully, as the failure of a generous, though, it may be, a rash attempt to rescue the victims of kidnappers.

“That the kidnapper is a criminal, and that the trade he drives is a vile and execrable one, is beyond all controversy here. But who, in this case, is the kidnapper? Let him who applies this epithet to Mr. Chaplin, imagine—and in the light of the fugitive slave bill now before

Congress, it is not difficult to imagine—his own daughter to be stealthily seized and borne away, under the pretence that she is the property of a master. Let him imagine Mr. C. as becoming apprised of her sad condition, and in the kindness of his heart undertaking to aid her in the recovery of the freedom of which she has been so unjustly deprived. Then let him say who is the kidnapper—the man who stole, or the man who seeks to restore his darling child? What is the difference between the case here supposed, and that which really exists? In principle, there is none. The slaves who were arrested while making their way, under Mr. Chaplin’s guidance, to a land of freedom, were somebody’s daughters, or somebody’s sons. By somebody they had been stolen, kidnapped,—unjustly deprived of freedom, and cruelly held in bondage, and it was truly as right and laudable to assist them in breaking away from the odious thralldom in which they were held, as it would be to perform a like service for the daughter of Anglo-Saxon parents. Why not? Has not God made of one blood all nations of men? And has he not given to all, without respect to national distinctions, or differences of complexion, the same inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?

“The time was, and not many years since, when Europeans and Americans, piratically captured on the high seas, or kidnapped from the northern shores of the Mediterranean, were held as slaves in the Barbary States. No. Mr. Chaplin is not a kidnapper. In aiding the flight of the trembling fugitive, he has simply obeyed the Divine command, which bids us ‘deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor.’

“He has done only what good men of all countries and climes, of all sects and parties, should feel themselves—we had almost said, will feel themselves bound to do, so far as they have opportunity.”

It appears that W. L. Chaplin has resided in Washington for two or three years past, and did not go there from the North for the purpose of enticing slaves from their masters; nor have we seen any evidence that he had any knowledge of the slaves in question, before they absconded.

THE PRODUCTION OF SUGAR IN LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES.

We give the following article relating to the cultivation of sugar in Louisiana, because we deem it of importance that every fact of this kind should be made known. It is taken from the *New Orleans Bulletin*, and appears to be drawn up with great care. It will strike our readers, that if the cultivation of sugar by slaves in the United States be found more profitable than that of cotton, the capital and the energies of the slaveholders in that country will be directed to its development; and when once this is the case, we may also expect that the low alluvial lands of Texas will be devoted to the same object. With the differential duty which exists in the United States in favour of home-produced sugar, and with the facilities which undoubtedly exist for its extension, there can be no doubt that the slaveholders of the United States will not only be able to compete with the slaveholders of Brazil and the Spanish colonies, but to beat them, in the markets of the United States.

We are indebted (says the *New Orleans Bulletin*) to Mr. P. A. Champomier for a copy of his statement of the sugar crop of Louisiana for the season of 1849–50. This is a highly interesting and valuable work, as regards this great staple of the State, and one which has required much labour and attention in collecting the correct details; to accomplish which, Mr. C. has been unremittingly employed for many months, and has visited almost every sugar plantation scattered through so many parishes and in every section of the State. The publication contains correct lists of all the sugar plantations in the State, separately detailed for each parish, with the names of the owners, quantity of each crop, distance from the city, &c.

It appears there are in the State 1536 sugar plantations, of which there are 865 provided with steam power, and 671 worked by horse power. The produce of these plantations, during last season, amounted to 247,923 hogsheads, the net weight of which is estimated at 269,796,000 pounds. This includes an estimate weight of about 12,500,000 lbs. of wet sugar, which is taken from the bottom of the molasses cisterns. The molasses is estimated at 45 gallons to each 1000 pounds of sugar; or in the aggregate about 12,000,000 of gallons. Of the above 1536 plantations, there are only 1455 which are producing ones, and 81 which have been recently opened, having as yet made no crops. Of these latter, 62 will produce crops to a limited extent next season, and 19 not until 1851–52.

Since 1846, there have been erected in the State 355 engines and sugar mills, most of them to replace old ones, or those previously worked by horse power. Of these engines and mills the foundries of Cincinnati have furnished 281; Pittsburg, 37; Richmond, 7; Baltimore, 4; Louisville, 3; New Orleans, 10; Algiers (La.), 2; Gretna (La.), 6; and the Novelty Works, New York, 5. We presume that these engines and mills, on an average, cost at least 5,000 dollars, and with the sugar

kettles, &c., would make nearly two millions of dollars which Louisiana has paid to her sister States for machinery alone during the above period.

Some of the plantations have refineries, and others make their entire crop in white clarified sugar. Many of these latter have very costly apparatus and machinery, for which from 20,000 to 40,000 dollars, 50,000, and even as high as 70,000 dollars have been expended, which add greatly to the above estimate of the amount paid by the planters of the State to citizens of other States for that kind of supplies.

Mr. Champomier estimates the loss to the sugar crop last year by the different crevasses at 18,000 hogsheads.

Mr. C. says, from the best information he has been able to obtain from Texas, there are not less than thirty-five sugar plantations there that will export about 10,000 hogsheads of the present crop of 1,000 pounds each, and that the exports from thence, next year, will probably be double that quantity.

The foregoing statement will afford us a convenient opportunity of contrasting the utility of slave labour with that of free.

The number of sugar estates, for the season of 1849-50, is stated at 1536, of which 865 are provided with steam power and 671 with horse power. The same writer, from whom the *Bulletin* borrows these statements, Mr. Champomier, makes a similar report for the year 1844, which may be found in the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the year 1845, page 725, recapitulated page 746. In the season of 1844-45, there were only 762 sugar estates in Louisiana, less than half the present number. Of this, 480 were provided with steam and 354 with horse power.

Edmund J. Forestall, Esq., merchant of New Orleans, responds to Mr. Secretary Walker's circulars, and estimates the value of capital invested in the sugar business, upon the best data in his possession. He arrives at the conclusion, that the value of land, slaves, and machinery employed in the production of sugar, for the season 1844-45, was 60,000,000 dollars. But he admits that he adopts the census returns of 1840, as to the number of slaves, and makes no addition for the increase of five years. In view of the fact that the culture was rapidly on the increase, it is fair to infer that the number of the slaves had increased twenty-five per cent. There were 50,670 of all ages and sexes thus employed in 1840, and twenty-five per cent upon this number would be about 12,500, making, say, 63,000 for 1844-45.

From the same source, Mr. Walker's report, we divine the fact, that the slaves, large and small, are valued at 400 dollars per head; at which price we must add the value of 12,400, in order to obtain the true value of capital invested in the sugar business for the year 1845. The sum thus obtained is 5,000,000 dollars. This, added to Mr. Forestall's estimate, gives 65,000,000 dollars for the value of land, slaves, and machinery employed in the production of sugar in the State of Louisiana in 1845. According to the recent estimate of Mr. Champomier, for the year 1849-50, the number of estates has doubled, and consequently the amount of capital and number of slaves. At this rate there must be a capital of 130,000,000 dollars, including 126,000 slaves; the value of these slaves at 400 dollars each is 50,400,000 dollars, leaving only 79,600,000 dollars in capital as all-sufficient to produce the sugar crop of Louisiana, whereas slavery requires the sum of 130,000,000 dollars.

The single state of facts presented above is sufficient to demonstrate that capital invested in slavery is wholly unproductive. It has nothing to do with production—nothing. Its office is simply to appropriate the wages of the labourer. If Louisiana were a free State, 79,600,000 dollars would produce the sugar crop, and although there would be a wider distribution of the profits, still the product would be the same, and society would be equally enriched by it.

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (U.S.)

The American mail, which arrived on the 30th of September last, brought the following particulars of the action of the Senate on this question, which will be found highly important.

Washington, Sept. 14.

"The Senate has been busily engaged to-day in working over the Bill for the Abolition of the Slave-trade in the District of Columbia. It has been quite a working day, though the result of all was the rejection of all that had been done for several days past, and the passage to its engrossment and third reading of the original Bill, as it came from the committee, having no other features than the simple abolition of the slave-trade. It was evident this morning that the Senate was entirely over its two days' flurry, caused by the introduction of Mr. Seward's amendment, which is as follows:—

"Section 1. Slavery shall forever cease within the district of Columbia, and all persons held in bondage therein shall be free. The Secretary of the Interior shall audit and pay to all persons holding slaves within the district at the time that this Act takes effect, such damages as they shall suffer by the passage thereof, and the sum of two hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to carry this Act into execution, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

"Section 2. An election shall be held in the district of Columbia to ascertain whether this Bill is approved by the people thereof. Those who approve the Act shall express their approbation by a ballot containing the words, 'For Emancipation in the District.' Those who are opposed, shall vote by ballot, containing the words, 'Against Emancipation in the District.' If a majority of the votes given at such election shall be in favour of this Act, it shall go into effect immediately. If a majority of the votes shall be against the same, this Act shall be void, and of none effect.

"It was further evident that they had come together with the determination either to 'do or die.'

"Two amendments had been fixed on the bill in committee of the whole; one providing for punishing the abduction of slaves, or the enticing or persuading, or as the technicality of 'the Black Code' is, 'enveigling' a slave to escape from his master, whether the offence was actually consummated by the escape or not, with the Penitentiary, for a term not exceeding ten and not less than two years!!! Let it be observed, as a curious fact, that such a provision of law actually did pass the ordeal of the votes of the American Senate.

"The other amendment, still more atrocious, conferred upon the corporate authorities of the district of Columbia power to drive out the ten thousand coloured population of the district, by stringent ordinances of banishment, for no offence except the crime of being in existence, and to imprison them at hard labour, continuously on, if they refused to go. This, too, had passed in committee.

"The bill being reported to the House, the question was, shall the amendments be concurred in or struck out, and as it was getting pretty obvious that the bill would not pass with the amendments as they were, a serious attempt was made, by a series of modifications and mollifications, to render the amendments less offensive. It was upon these that the day was consumed.

"Mr. Clay opposed the conjunction of these measures from the commencement, and continuously on, while he avowed that he had no objection to the principle of either amendment. He was willing to pass a law augmenting the penalty now imposed upon the offence of aiding the escape of fugitives, which by the way is now, and has been for fifty years, only a pecuniary mulct of 200 dollars, and he was willing to give the authority to the City to expatriate her coloured population, but he did not wish those measures combined with this last plank of the Omnibus Bill. He would vote for something like the amendments, though he thought their features too harsh in the details, in separate bills, and on appropriate occasions, but he totally objected to combining them with the bill before the Senate, and believed that to do so would be to defeat the whole.

"Mr. Hale objected to the second amendment, that it would make it a criminal offence, to be punished with ten years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary, to read the Declaration of Independence in the district of Columbia.

"Mr. Badger admitted that it would be, to read it in the presence of a slave, with the intention of inducing him to seek for liberty; that is, in such a way as to give the impression that it means anything.

"By a series of surgical operations, lasting nearly the whole day, these amendments were pared down to something less absolutely outrageous in detail, but none the less so in principle. The Penitentiary term was reduced to 'any time not exceeding five years,' and other corporation powers to a fine of 200 dollars, or imprisonment, not to exceed six months. Even these ameliorations forced Jefferson Davis to exclaim, in his agony, that the whole Senate, north and south, were running away with sympathy for negro thieves. In point of fact, southern members did behave with more moderation on the occasion than is their habit.

"When everything was completed, and the question recurred on adopting the amendments as amended, Mr. Clay made another appeal to the Senate, to cast off everything but the original bill, and pass that; and so upon the final vote the amendments, with all the lumbering heap of amendments upon amendments, went by the board, and the simple Act, of two sections, abolishing the slave-trade in the district of Columbia, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. The bill will undoubtedly pass the House of Representatives, and become a law, and be accepted by the North, as the first real concession to the rising spirit of humanity in the National Legislation.

"It is provided that—

"If any slave shall be brought into said district by its owner, or by the authority or consent of its owner, contrary to the provisions of this Act, such slave shall thereupon become liberated and free."

"And also—

"That it shall and may be lawful for each of the Corporations of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, from time to time, and as often as may be necessary, to abate, break up, and abolish any depôt or place of confinement of slaves, brought into the said districts as merchandise, contrary to the provisions of this Act, by such appropriate means as may appear to either of the said Corporations expedient and proper. And the same power is hereby vested in the levy Court of Washington County, if any attempt shall be made, within its jurisdictional limits, to establish a depôt or place of confinement for slaves brought into the said district as merchandise for sale, contrary to this Act."

The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER the 1st, 1850.

It is impossible for the friends of human liberty to reflect on the late proceedings of the Congress of the United States, without the deepest pain and mortification. That body has succumbed to the Southern influence; and the Southern policy in the Government and the Legislature is all but triumphant. The series of measures which, in one form or another, have been in debate eight months, have passed the Senate and House of Representatives, and only wait the signature of President Fillmore to become law. To show at how dear a rate the introduction of California as a free State has been purchased, we have to state, First, That ninety-five thousand square miles of New Mexico have been handed over to Texas, with ten millions of dollars, to purchase the renunciation of her alleged claims on that province, to which she had not the shadow of a right. This vast section of country is to be devoted to slavery. Secondly, New Mexico and Utah are to have territorial Governments, without any provision against slavery. The Southern party may, therefore, establish slavery in them, if, when they are formed into States, they have power enough to carry the vote; and that they will attempt to do this, there can be no doubt. Thirdly, The whole of the free States are to be made the hunting ground of the slaveholders, in pursuit of their fugitive slaves. The laws which have been enacted in these States for their protection are abrogated, and there is not a single coloured man who may not be taken up, and should he not be able, formally, to substantiate his claim to freedom, he must go into slavery. As a sort of set-off to this atrocious enactment, the slave-trade in the district of Columbia is to be abolished; but every one knows that this measure is meant really to protect the system of slavery which exists there. It will not diminish the slave traffic in the slightest degree; it will simply remove the market for men, women, and children to another place, out of the eye of observation, so that foreigners may no longer be scandalised by the fact, that the seat of Government, where the greatest men in the Union congregate, is also the seat of the vilest commerce which ever degraded and disgraced humanity. At present, the Capitol and the slave-pen stand close to each other; and, whilst within the walls of the former you may hear the tyranny and despotism of Europe eloquently denounced, and sympathy expressed for people struggling for liberty; you may hear in the other the clanking of the chains and the groans of the wretched slaves, the representatives of three millions of their race, who have been sold off to the Southern markets.

And who are the men who have lent themselves to the extension of slavery, who have imperilled the cause of freedom in New Mexico and Utah, and have agreed to capture and throw back again into bondage the escaped slave? The brutal slaveholders, in forcing the passage of these measures, laboured in their vocation; but these men, unaided, never would have effected these objects,—the disgrace emphatically belongs to the Fillmores, the Websters, and the Casses, who, to gratify their personal ambition and lust of power, have sacrificed the honour of their country, and brought upon themselves the condemnation and reproaches of all honest and good men.

The New York *Evening Post* shows the means which have been employed to corrupt the meaner class of American politicians. It says:—

"The *Tribune* attributes the misconduct of Congress, in passing the Texas Boundary Bill, to the bad management of the friends of free soil. But for their zeal in claiming too much, says *The Tribune*, 'a better result might have been obtained.' This is precisely what we might have expected of such a friend of free soil as *The Tribune*—an attempt to shift the blame from the real authors of this iniquity to the shoulders of those who did their best to resist it. The success of the Ten Million Bill was not in any measure owing to the management of the friends of free soil, for they were not permitted to have anything to do with it. It was owing, in part, to the efforts of the Compromise party, who concocted the Bill and carried it through. It was owing, in part, to the influence of the administration, and the alarms expressed in Mr. Fillmore's cowardly message, in which he declared that Texas had a good title to New Mexico, and recommended that money should be given for it. It was owing, in part, to the shameful desertion of Webster from the cause of freedom in the territories, carrying with him a set of subaltern politicians like Ashmun, Eliot, and the rest. It was owing to the diligence of the holders of Texas scrip, who approached every member with such means of persuasion as were most likely to be effectual, who had a strong force of lobby

agents, engaged in perpetual solicitation of the members; a body so numerous, that when the Bill was at last passed by the House of Representatives, they and their creatures in the gallery applauded the docility of the members with a deafening shout."

Our only hope now is, that the sounder portion of American society will indignantly repudiate the conduct of their representatives; and that a just horror will be expressed at the proceedings of Congress. Should the people of the free States feel the insult that has been offered them, and the outrage which has been done to humanity at large, they will combine in some grand effort, to purge their country and its institutions from the stain and the guilt which have been brought upon them by those in whom they confided. Should this not be done, then it is easy to foresee that, at no very distant period, a catastrophe must occur, the bare contemplation of which should make every heart tremble. There are three millions of slaves in the United States; they have been wholly overlooked in the late discussions. Is there no might slumbering in their arms—no vengeance garnered in their hearts? Is it probable that they will always be content to wear their chains—to be driven to their tasks like beasts of burthen—to have their affections as well as their flesh lacerated, by the unutterable tortures inflicted by separation and sale? When they come to understand that they are doomed to interminable slavery—that there is no escape, either for them or their offspring, from their degradation and captivity—that, in fact, their case is hopeless, may not the desperation engendered by such circumstances lead to the most fearful results? Who can wonder, how much soever they may lament it, at the nature of the resolutions and the address to the slave population of the United States, framed by the coloured Convention recently held at Cazenovia? Not a few of the people met there were themselves fugitive slaves, and many more had some of their dearest relations retained in slavery; it was, therefore, natural, in view of what was taking place at Washington, that they should express themselves in strong terms, and give counsels to their brethren in bonds, which nothing but despair could have dictated. Statesmen as they designate themselves may, for a time, by their expedients, get rid of a troublesome subject; but it will return upon them in new shapes and more formidable aspects, and should they continue deaf and blind, He who is the God of the oppressed will avenge their cause, and hold those who have betrayed it to a strict account.

Since the above was written we have received the following communication from a devoted friend of the anti-slavery cause:—

"New York, September 17, 1850.

"The different subjects included in Mr. Clay's Compromise Bill have been put into separate Bills, and, after a brief discussion, passed by both Houses of Congress. You will be surprised at this—as vast numbers were in this country—and will wish to know the reason. Not half of either branch of the National Legislature would have voted for the Bill as it originally stood, and yet decisive majorities promptly voted for the measures separately. But the same individuals did not vote on all the Bills alike. Votes were changed on all subjects, except those of a determined minority of the South, which went against all the Bills, and a resolute band of Northerners who voted against all, except that for the admission of California.

"Some of the reasons for the swift passage of these Bills, after nine months' legislation respecting them, are the following:—1. Influential members of the Senate exerted an influence over the members of the lower House. 2. Mr. Webster's position as Secretary of State, and 'Prime Minister' of the new administration, enabled him to work efficiently in favour of the passage of the Bills. 3. The influence of the administration, in the way of reward, may have had an effect upon several members. 4. The ten millions of dollars, to be given to Texas, was to be distributed among needy and persevering bondholders, who thronged the avenues to the halls of Congress, exerting the influence desperate men thus circumstanced can exert over unprincipled legislators. 5. The influence of the manufacturing and commercial interests. 6. The threats of the South, fears of a collision with Texas, nullification in other States, &c.

"Strange as it may appear, General Taylor, a Southerner by birth and a slaveholder, had he lived, would have taken decided ground against Texas, and probably prevented the passage of the worst of these Bills. A State paper was nearly prepared, and would soon have been issued, it is confidently stated, that would have placed President Taylor in the commanding position, relative to Southern arrogance, that General Jackson secured when he issued the celebrated proclamation respecting nullification in South Carolina.

"The commercial, trading, manufacturing, conservative interests of the country are exulting over the victory that has been achieved; while the free people of colour are greatly alarmed at the passage of the Bill

for the reclamation of fugitive slaves; and the ultra slave factionists of the South are exasperated at the admission of a new free State on the Pacific. So far from stopping agitation by the passage of these Bills, it will, doubtless, be increased. But I have not leisure to enlarge at the present time. The interests of a gold-loving and war-making people are opposed to human rights and to the republican principles of the founders of this Republic, as the interests of all other nations, of similar aspirations, are to the progress of freedom and a recognition of the equality of man."

We are glad to find that our friends are not discouraged, but intend to seek the repeal of the obnoxious portions of the Bills lately passed.

"Do not think the abolitionists of this country are disheartened by the flagitious proceedings of Congress. You know of what materials majorities of legislative bodies are often composed—selfish, ambitious, time-serving, reckless men. Measures will be taken to obtain a repeal of all unconstitutional and oppressive sections of the Acts recently passed, and a future Congress may undo, to a great extent, what the present Congress has done. Be this as it may, the abolitionists here have never lost their faith, under previous trials and disappointments, in the ultimate success of their labours, nor their determination to prosecute the moral warfare in which they are engaged until complete success shall, by the help of God, crown their efforts."

We simply add, that the Bill for the abolition of the slave-trade in the district of Columbia has passed the Senate, and is expected to receive the sanction of the House of Representatives.

The Anti-slavery Committee have felt it to be their duty to call Lord Grey's attention to the oppressive license laws of British Guiana, and to urge upon him the necessity of applying an immediate and sufficient remedy to this serious grievance. The Memorial of the Committee will be found in the first part of the *Reporter*, and as it fully describes the nature and operation of the law, we need not do more than direct the reader's attention to it.

Copies of other ordinances of a most oppressive character have reached us by the last mail, relating to the immigrant labourers about to be introduced into the Colonies, from India and Africa, at the public expense. We select two: one which has received the sanction of the Court of Policy in British Guiana, and the other has been passed by the Legislative Council of Trinidad. The first has reference to Coolies, the second to liberated Africans. The Coolie ordinance of Guiana is retrospective in its character, and will bring within its operation every living Coolie now in the colony, whose period of service has not yet expired, as well as all the Coolies, ten thousand in number, whom it is intended to import as rapidly as possible. The ordinance takes from the Coolies all right of choosing their employments and employers; it places them at the disposal of the agent-general,—or rather of those who can influence his movements,—who has the power to allot them, in whatsoever number it may please him, to the planters for a period of five years; it holds them to labour nine hours a day, for six days in the week, upon the plantations, independently of the time it may take them in going to and returning from the place of labour, which sometimes takes from one to two hours more; it restricts them to the estates, except on Sundays, and four holidays in the year, unless they have a pass from the employer or his agent; and thus takes from them all power of going before a magistrate to complain of ill-treatment, non-delivery of rations, or non-payment of wages; and, of course, all access to the markets. They can thus only avail themselves of the truck-system for supplies—bad enough in this country, but infinitely worse in the colonies. If, for any cause, after the first year's engagement on the estates, they do not continue at plantation labour, they must pay a heavy monthly tax, *in advance*, or re-engage, or be subjected to penal labour; indeed, every part of this ordinance is to be enforced by that means, so that we have here a system of slavery, for a certain period, re-established. This ordinance, like many others, is remarkable for the power which it places in the hands of the employer, and for its containing no clause which gives the labourer the slightest means of compelling his master to be either just or humane. We need make no comments on such legislation as this; it carries with it its own condemnation; but we do earnestly hope that our friends will unite with us in reprobating this new attempt to enslave a portion of the labourers of British Guiana.

The Trinidad ordinance makes it necessary that every liberated African, introduced into that colony at the expense of the Imperial Treasury, shall be bound to labour for a planter for five years, the

contracts to be renewed annually; that the Governor for the time being shall allot them at his discretion, and fix the allowance of clothing, food, or wages they are to receive the first year; but, subsequently, the Special Justice shall fix the remuneration to be received; that the Africans shall labour, during the first five days in the week, for nine hours per diem, and on Saturdays for five hours, the remainder to be devoted to instruction; that they shall be restricted to the plantations, unless they have a pass from their employer, except on their way to or from Divine worship on Sundays, Good Friday, or Christmas-day; and in case any African shall refuse or neglect to re-engage, during any period of the five years specified, with a planter, he is then to be subject to a monthly tax, payable *in advance*, of five shillings. This, too, is slavery re-enacted for a limited time, and is thus justified by Lord Harris:—"Compulsion there must be somewhere;" and he adds, "I imagine that if the matter were fully explained to the liberated Africans, on their being taken from a slaver, and the choice given to them, they would prefer invariably to return to their own country than to be brought to these islands." He is aware that "the term slavery might be applied to any plan of the kind," but is "contented to bear it." The question, however, is not what his lordship is "contented to bear," or rather to inflict on the helpless Africans, but what the people of this country will endure. If we mistake not, the legislators of Guiana and Trinidad will be called to a strict account for their violations of human rights and British law.

It appears that the Government are pushing with unusual vigour the cruising system against the slave-trade; and that orders have been given, not only to replace the squadron on the African coast by thirty-two screw-steamers, but that the cruisers now on the coast of Brazil have received instructions, if need be, to enter Brazilian ports, and to capture and destroy vessels which bear marks of being employed in the traffic. We have always been of opinion that, if force is to be employed in this service, it should be directed against those quarters where its effects would be most sensibly felt; that is to say, that the ports of Cuba and Brazil should be blockaded, rather than the coasts of Africa. A blow struck in these directions would tell with tenfold greater effect than in Africa. In the absence of strictly official reports, we shall wait to see what are the results of the new movement upon Brazil and Spain; but we do most earnestly hope that Government will not overlook the right of this country to demand the liberation from slavery of all Africans who have been illicitly imported into Brazil and the Spanish colonies, contrary to treaty and to law. This is, after all, the capital point, for it is clear, that until this great act of justice be accomplished, the treaties will not have received their fulfilment; and that the traffic in slaves may, at any favourable moment, be renewed, should the present means taken for its suppression be successful.

We have read the report of the noble meeting held at Glasgow, a short time since, to enforce the fulfilment of the treaties for the suppression of the slave-trade. We regret that, in the present number of the *Reporter*, we have not been able to do more than give a copy of the resolutions and petition adopted thereat. Dr. King's eloquent address deserves especial commendation. It shows a thorough comprehension of the whole question. The movement begun in Glasgow will, we trust, be followed up throughout the principal towns of the north. Such demonstrations of public opinion must tell upon the Government, and advance the period of general emancipation.

But the British colonies have a great work to perform also. They must be up and doing. The question doubly interests them, and no stone should be left unturned to press it upon the British legislature. Every colony should organise a committee of active and energetic men, and open an extensive correspondence with all persons in them who can help the movement. Meetings should be held in every town or district. Resolutions should be passed, memorials and petitions should be adopted, and the whole of them forwarded previously to the meeting of Parliament. The measures already taken in the colonies have done great good, but they must be followed up with spirit and perseverance. Let the Auxiliary Anti-slavery Societies which have been formed, send liberal contributions to the Parent Society, that it may set the necessary agency at work, and there can be but little doubt that the issue will amply repay the labour and the expense it may involve. We are prepared to do our part in this great work; let our friends in the colonies do theirs.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.—PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

The Senate have already passed the following Bills incorporated into the Compromise Bill, viz.:—

1. A Bill providing a territorial Government for Utah, without any instructions on the subject of slavery.
2. A Bill for the adjustment of the Texas boundary.
3. A Bill for the admission of California into the Union as a State, with the constitution she has adopted excluding slavery, and with the boundaries specified in that instrument.
4. A Bill providing a territorial Government for New Mexico, without any restrictions on the subject of slavery, but with the express stipulation that when admitted into the Union she may admit or exclude slavery as she pleases.

The following is a summary of the debates on the

FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL.

August 19.

Mr. Mason moved to amend it by striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting a substitute for the entire Bill. This amendment provides, in effect, that three commissioners shall be appointed in each county, by the federal judge of the general judicial districts, who shall hear and determine, in a fair manner, every case of an alleged fugitive from slavery. The deposition or affidavit of the owner, certified before some judicial officer in the State from which the slave may have fled, and proof of the identity of the person claimed, to be deemed sufficient proof to warrant the delivery of the fugitive to the claimant, who shall be subject to no further molestation in the conveyance of his slave back to the place from whence he had fled—the decision of the commissioners being final. The marshal and his deputies are directed to execute the warrants issued by these commissioners, and a penalty of six months' imprisonment, or a fine of one thousand dollars, is imposed upon those who shall aid in the escape of a slave from the claimant. It also provides, that if a slave is rescued from the claimant, after being delivered into his hands by the commissioners, his or her slave shall be paid for out of the treasury of the United States.

Mr. Dayton moved to amend the amendment by substituting the Bill laid on the table, several weeks since, by Mr. Webster, which he briefly supported. It provides, that if the alleged fugitive shall declare that he owes no service to the claimant, the right of the claimant shall be decided, finally, without delay, by the finding of a jury.

Mr. Mason opposed Mr. Dayton's amendment. He was satisfied that if its provisions were adopted, the Bill would be utterly ineffectual and useless; if the trial by jury was adopted, it would be considered conclusive evidence of the refusal on the part of the Federal Government to perform its duty, in relation to the delivery of fugitive slaves.

Mr. Dayton replied, contending that there was no safer ground on which the slaveholder could rest his rights, than the verdict of twelve honest men.

Mr. Berrien called the especial attention of the Senate to the principle of the amendment granting the trial by jury, and expressed the hope that Southern gentlemen would allow the question to be taken up without debate. He asked the yeas and nays on the amendment, and they were ordered.

In the course of some remarks by Mr. Winthrop, in support of the amendment,

Mr. Butler inquired whether he had ever heard of a case in which an attempt was made to assert a false claim, by which a free man was held as a slave?

Mr. Wales referred to several such cases, and Mr. Walker also recited several similar cases; and, among others, one in which a white girl was scarcely rescued from the claim of a kidnapper.

Mr. Underwood said, the provision for a jury trial would not satisfy the people of Kentucky, and he advocated an amendment of the Act of 1793, which should provide for the execution of that law by the federal officers, to whom such duty should be assigned.

Mr. Cass desired a simple amendment of the law of 1793, the main feature of which, he thought, ought to be resumed. That Act laid down four principles to which he was prepared to adhere:—First, The right of the master to arrest his fugitive slave wherever he may find him. Second, His duty to carry him before a magistrate in the State where he is arrested, that the claim may be adjusted by the magistrate. Third, The duty of the magistrate to examine the claim and to decide, like other examining magistrates, without a jury; Fourth, The right of the master then to remove his slave to his residence.

After further debate, the amendment was rejected. Yeas 11, nays 27.

Mr. Chase moved to amend Mr. Mason's amendment by the insertion of a provision for a jury trial to test the question of claim or no claim, being the same in effect as the amendment just voted on. This amendment also was rejected.

Mr. Winthrop moved an amendment, securing the right of Habeas Corpus to alleged fugitives, and providing for a judicial review of the decisions of the proposed commissioners, which, after a debate, was also rejected. Yeas, 11; nays, 26.

August 20.

The Fugitive Slave Bill was again taken up, the question being upon Mr. Mason's amendment, which was adopted, without a division.

Mr. Pratt moved further to amend the Bill, by adding still more stringent provisions for the payment by the United States of the value of escaped slaves, who shall not be delivered up to the claimant by the officers whose duty it is made to execute this law. Mr. Pratt supported this amendment at considerable length, closing with observations upon the impropriety and impracticability of abolishing slavery throughout the Union, and with some strictures upon a speech delivered in Ohio some time since, by an individual whom he designated as the "high power" senator.

Mr. Dayton opposed the amendment. He would like to get rid of this agitation by making it a question of dollars and cents merely, but it must be done in a legal and constitutional way. The principle involved in the amendment proposed was one which, if adopted, would lead to disastrous results.

Mr. Badger advocated the amendment. If the Federal Government failed to perform its constitutional duty, it was but just that the United States should make good to the owner of the slave, his or her value.

Mr. Butler contended that the Federal Government ought not to be made the grand underwriters of fugitive slaves. It was the duty of the States to execute the constitutional provision in question.

The Senate adjourned without voting on the amendment.

August 23.

Mr. Chase moved to amend the amendment, by striking out a section making the provisions of the Act applicable to the territories, so as to apply it to the States only.

A long debate ensued upon this amendment, in the course of which Mr. Yulee read, from the *New York Journal of Commerce*, a report of an amalgamated Convention at Cazenovia, commenting upon its incendiary address, and calling the attention of the people of the South to it, as a sample of the opinions and feelings of the North in relation to the rights of the South, or at least acts which were countenanced and supported by their laws.

Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, read an Act of the State of Iowa, for the purpose of showing that her citizens entertained no such sentiments as those assigned to the North by Mr. Yulee, and ventured to assert that the proceedings and sentiments of the free negro Convention at Cazenovia would be repudiated by the great mass of the people of New York.

The question being taken on Mr. Chase's amendment, it was rejected, he alone voting for it.

Mr. Mason moved to amend the amendment offered by him, and adopted in committee of the whole, by adding a provision, making a marshal or his deputy responsible in damages for the escape of a fugitive from his custody, after he has been arrested. It also makes him responsible, if he shall fail to use all due diligence in executing the demand for the arrest of a fugitive.

The latter clause of the amendment was adopted without a division, and the former by yeas twenty-three, to nays thirteen.

Minor amendments were made to Mr. Mason's substitute, which was finally concurred in.

Mr. Davis, of Mass., moved an amendment, the object of which was to relieve coloured citizens of free States from the operation of laws of Southern States, by which such coloured citizens going to Southern cities as seamen are imprisoned and liable to be sold into slavery. Mr. Davis supported the amendment briefly.

Mr. Butler contended that a coloured man was not a citizen of the United States, and not entitled, under the constitution, to the complete rights of citizenship.

Mr. Berrien contended for the right of a State to pass such municipal laws for its protection as may be deemed necessary. If the amendment should be adopted, it must defeat the Bill, as no man could vote for a proposition which aimed so deadly a blow at the South, by sweeping away the safeguards which the States had erected to secure themselves, their wives, and their children, against the horrors of servile insurrection.

Mr. Winthrop advocated the amendment, and submitted some pointed remarks in condemnation of the laws of South Carolina, to which the amendment refers. After some further debate,

Mr. Dickinson made some remarks in relation to the Cazenovia Convention, referred to this morning by Mr. Yulee, saying that the senator would never have alluded to it, if he knew the scorn and contempt with which all such proceedings were looked upon by the great mass of the people of all parties in the North.

The question being taken upon Mr. Davis's amendment, it was rejected; yeas, thirteen; nays, twenty-four.

The Bill was then ordered to be engrossed. Yeas, twenty-seven; nays, twelve.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, August 29.

UTAH BILL.

The Bill establishing a territorial Government for Utah was read by its title, when Mr. Boyd moved that it be referred to the Committee on Territories. The motion was carried.

TEXAS BOUNDARY BILL.

The Bill to settle the Texas Boundary having been read by its title, Mr. Boyd moved an amendment. It was very nearly the Senate's Bill, establishing a territorial Government for New Mexico and Utah.

The Speaker had previously decided that, as all Bills containing appropriations must go to the committee of the whole, the present Bill must take that direction, inasmuch as it contained appropriations. Mr. Boyd's amendment was designed to divest it of that feature, and thus enable the House to act upon it at once. It varied the Senate's Bill but very slightly.

August 29.

The floor was taken by Mr. Boyd, in behalf of his amendment to the Texas Boundary Bill.

Mr. Clingman offered an amendment, that all that portion of territory acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, bounded as follows—by a line commencing in the Pacific Ocean on the parallel of thirty-six degrees north latitude, three miles from the main land, running thence due east till it strikes the Sierra Nevada, thence eastwardly and northwardly with the crest of said mountain range, until it strikes the parallel of thirty-seven degrees north latitude, thence due east with said parallel until it strikes the Sierra Madre, thence southerly with the crest of the same until it reaches the boundary between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, thence westwardly with said boundary to the Pacific Ocean, thence northwardly with the coast to the beginning; the whole of said territory to constitute the territory of Colorado, and that the Government of said territory shall in all respects be similar to that provided for the territory of New Mexico by the accompanying provisions of this Bill.

On these two amendments, debate was had to the end of the sitting.

September 4.

Mr. Boyd's and Mr. Clingman's amendments were rejected.

September 5.

Mr. Toombs obtained the floor and proposed an additional section to the amendment of Mr. Boyd, to establish a territorial Government for New Mexico, by adding that "no citizen of the United States shall be deprived of his life, liberty or property, except by the judgment of his peers and the laws of the land; and that the constitution of the United States, and such statutes thereof as may not be locally inapplicable to the common law, as it existed within the British colonies of America until the 4th of July, 1776, shall be the exclusive law of said territory on the subject of African slavery, until altered by the proper authorities."

Sundry motions and amendments were offered and rejected, amid great excitement and uproar, when the question recurred on Mr. Toombs's amendment. A division was ordered, and the first part of T.'s proposition, that "no citizen of the United States shall be deprived of liberty or property in said territory, except by the judgment of his peers and the laws of the land," was adopted, and the second part was rejected. After more confusion, unsuccessful motions to adjourn, &c., the question was taken on Mr. Boyd's amendment, as amended by the first part of Mr. Toombs's proposition, and it was adopted. Yeas, 106; Nays, 99. The question was then taken on ordering the Bill as amended to a third reading, and lost by 8 majority. Yeas, 99; Nays, 107.

September 6.

The question was now on ordering the Bill, as amended, yesterday, to a third reading. It was an exciting time, and much confusion prevailed. The galleries and lobbies were filled with anxious spectators. When the Clerk commenced calling the roll the noise ceased, and seldom have we known so much quiet as now. The roll-call concluded, there was a movement all over the hall. Votes were changed, and every proceeding watched with the utmost anxiety. The result was, Yeas, 108; Nays, 98.

Mr. Burt moved to lay the Bill on the table.

Disagreed to—Yeas, 97; Nays, 108.

The Bill was then passed—Yeas, 107; Nays, 97.

On the motion of Mr. Thompson, of Penn., the motion to reconsider the vote was laid on the table. The title of the Bill was amended by adding, "and to establish a Territorial Government for New Mexico."

CALIFORNIA BILL.

September 7.

The House took up the California Bill from the Senate.

Mr. Thompson, of Miss., rose to move an amendment.

Mr. Meade, of Va., caused one to be read which he wished to offer. It was, in effect, that the owners of slaves shall have twelve months to remove them from the limits of California, and providing for the recovery of slaves who shall escape into this State.

Mr. Thompson then briefly advocated the amendment, saying that the limits of California were too large, and showing the gross outrage on the South, if it should not be adopted. It would be the means of restoring peace throughout the Union.

Mr. Thompson's substitute was rejected. Yeas, 71; Nays, 134.

The third reading of the Bill was then ordered. Yeas, 151; Nays, 56.

PASSAGE OF THE UTAH BILL.

The House now went into committee of the whole on the Senate Bill, to establish a territorial Government for Utah.

The first section having been read, Mr. Wentworth proposed the Wilmot Proviso, as applicable to all the territories acquired from Mexico.

Mr. Haralson, of Ga., said this was a Bill providing for the Government of Utah alone, and as the amendment applied to the territory acquired from Mexico, it was out of order.

Mr. Wentworth modified his amendment, so as to confine the Proviso to Utah, and it was voted down. Ayes, 69; Nays, 78.

Mr. Meade then submitted an amendment, with a few remarks, allowing slaves to be taken into Utah, until a State Government shall be formed.

This was rejected. Ayes, 55; Nays, 85.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., moved to strike out the Proviso in the Bill, namely, "that said territory shall hereafter be admitted as a State, with or without slavery." His object was non-intervention. It did not become this Congress to attempt to bind future Congresses as to the admission of States, with or without slavery. This amendment was also rejected. Ayes, 19; Nays, 86.

Mr. Fitch, of Ia., offered an amendment, that the Mexican law prohibiting slavery shall remain in full force.

Mr. Millson, of Va., proposed to amend Mr. Fitch's amendment, so that the laws in existence at the time the territory was acquired shall not be construed to destroy the rights to property recognised in the slaveholding States.

Mr. Millson's amendment was rejected. Yeas, 49; Nays, 92. Mr. Fitch's, by Yeas, 51; Nays, 85.

The Bill was eventually passed. Yeas, 97; Nays, 85.

FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL.

This Bill passed the House by a vote of 109 to 75.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CASE OF MR. WILLIAM L. CHAPLIN—LETTER FROM THE REV. HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—American slavery has gained another victory, and has seized another victim, whom it hopes to immolate upon its bloody altar. It is the privilege of the writer hereof to be personally acquainted with the gentleman whose name is above mentioned. He is emphatically a gentleman, a scholar, a Christian, and a true hero. Being a man of brilliant talents, and of liberal education, he started out in life with a fair chance of going far on the highway of worldly distinction. At one time, he was a general in the army of his native State, Massachusetts, and is a lawyer by profession. But with an uncommon spirit of devotion to the cause of freedom, he preferred to identify himself with the infant and unpopular anti-slavery reformation. From the time that he espoused the cause, to the moment of his incarceration, his labours in the behalf of the injured slave have been unremitting. He is a man of extraordinary earnestness of character, and his actions indicated that he remembered them in bonds, as though he was bound with them. He was the friend and coadjutor of the murdered Charles T. Torrey; and when that noble man fell asleep, he filled up "the deadly imminent breach" with his own talents and person; nor has he been less successful than his martyred friend. Hundreds of men and women are now enjoying their liberty, who, but for him, would have been to-day drinking the bitter cup of slavery.

No doubt but that some people will feel disposed to censure Mr. Chaplin. There is a large class of humane persons, who are far more ready to censure reformers for their recklessness, than they are to do anything themselves that would secure for them such a reputation from an ungodly world. When a man really believes that he ought to do unto others all things that he would that others should do unto him, he will go a great way in the cause of humanity. This great Gospel principle is theoretically understood by many, while there are but a very few who practise it. Wm. L. Chaplin admired the heavenly command, and his life was a living epistle of that admiration. The young Hebrew, Daniel, was doubtlessly censured, when he spurned the Persian's impious decree, and prayed to the God of his fathers. The lion's den could have been easily avoided, if he had not feared and loved his King. And so, too, the Man of Sorrows could have escaped the cruel enmity of the Jews, and could have passed to the tomb without the tortures of the scourge and the thorny crown. Had He been less earnest, there would have been no cross erected on Calvary for him; and there would have been no redemption for us. It would be well for us often to remember, that the disciple is not above his Lord, and that the paths of Christian duty often lie through territories of perils and death. It is to be earnestly hoped, that his life may not be sacrificed to the unrelenting demon of slavery. But it would be no marvel if it should be so, for in America there is no law that rises above the public opinion; and that, in

the district of Columbia, or other slave States, is managed by men-stealers, and their apologists. The slaveholders will find strong advocates in the Hon. Daniel Webster, and the Rev. Professor Moses Stuart. The great influence of the former in the chief department of State, and the fame and learning of the latter, who has so long been a teacher in Andover Theological Seminary, will go far to dig a dungeon, and forge chains for the heroic Chaplin. May he be saved from the remorseless fury of the merciless tigers who are gnashing their teeth upon him, and who are waiting impatiently to lap his blood! God, who has all power, can alone restrain the wrath of his enemies.

Mr. Chaplin is between fifty and sixty years of age, a little above the middle size, and is extremely gentlemanly in his bearing and demeanour. His face is a mirror of amiability and kindness, and his conversational powers are rarely surpassed. Take him altogether, he is one of the noblest sons of America, of whom his country seems unworthy. Unlike Torry, he has no wife or children to mourn around his prison; but there are millions of bondsmen, who will pronounce their blessings upon him, while his name shall be often repeated in the anthems of the free.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sept. 23.

H. H. GARNET.

ANTI-SLAVERY MEETING AT FRANKFORT ON THE MAINE.

The anti-slavery cause is one of several which appears to have received benefit from the recent assembly of the friends of peace in Frankfort. It appears that the presence of two of the African race at the Congress, suggested the idea of holding a public meeting in Frankfort, at which they might give some important information respecting the operation of the system, with the working of which they were too well acquainted, and from which they had, by following the north star, effected their own emancipation. The wish to hold such a meeting, we are informed, originated with Herr Heidler, a banker of Frankfort, and who is a zealous abolitionist. As the result of his efforts, two important meetings were held immediately after the business of the Congress had terminated.

The interest excited in the cause of universal emancipation from slavery, by the gentleman to whom we have referred, and by the English and American delegates, led to the convening of another meeting, composed almost exclusively of Germans, who were addressed through an interpreter, by the Revs. Dr. Pennington and H. H. Garnet. The place of assembly, the Evangelical church, was crowded to excess, and hundreds of the people of Frankfort were unable to obtain admission. Dr. Pennington gave an impressive picture of the present position of slavery in the United States. He refuted the statements which have been made respecting those who are the victims of the system, and fully expounded the present legislation in reference to the slavery question. The Rev. H. H. Garnet described the influence of slavery in degrading the minds of all who participated in its evils, whether as masters, or as slaves, and illustrated his views by many affecting details. As these statements came from the lips of a person who had himself been a sufferer of the evils he described, they did not fail, as indeed they could not, to excite the deepest interest in the minds of the audience.

It was a novel thing for a German assembly to listen to statements respecting slavery from persons who had themselves been slaves, and the consequence of the meeting will, no doubt, be a very considerable increase to the friends of the slave in a country from which support had not previously been anticipated. It should be mentioned, to the honour of the German people, that the emigrants who leave that country for the United States have kept themselves free from the vice by which so many of our own people have been contaminated. The German settlers in the United States have acted as if they believed that all men were of one family. They have not treated the coloured man as if he were a being of an inferior race. They have received him into their log-houses, as if he were a man and a brother. When fugitive slaves have been on their flight northward to the land of liberty, they have uniformly found the German settlers their true friends. There appears, however, to be a natural kindness and true humanity in the German mind, which spurns from it the odious idea of trading in human flesh and blood, and getting wealth by those means which are resorted to by settlers from our own country. We welcome the adhesion of the good people of Frankfort to the cause of human freedom throughout the world, and we anticipate that the example which they have shown would be most cordially seconded throughout Germany, if that country were to be visited by men of colour, who could narrate from their own personal experience the real state of slavery in the different countries in which it still exists. The leading minds in the United States turn to Germany with the greatest respect and veneration. German works are very rapidly translated into English by Americans, and read throughout the States. There are many Americans who are, to say the least, as well acquainted with the new productions as we are in this country, and as anxious to show deference to the intelligence which is continually flowing out from the ancient Fatherland. It would be well, therefore, if they could discover that the doings of slave breeders, holders, and dealers were as well understood, and as thoroughly abhorred by the philosophers of Germany, as by the practical men of our own country.—*Morning Advertiser*, Sept. 4.

Home Intelligence.

AMERICAN SLAVERY—THE FREE-LABOUR MOVEMENT.

It is already known to our readers—for we have repeatedly brought the fact under their consideration—that a movement is on foot in this country to undermine the institution of American slavery, by withdrawing, as far as may be, its foundation and support; the consumption of its products, its cotton, and sugar, and rice, raised by the enforced and unrequited toil of the negro. With this view tracts have been circulated, making known to housekeepers what countries and colonies produce their goods by slave labour, and what by free labour; that, in making their purchases, they may choose the free in preference to the slave—may prefer, for instance, the sugars and coffees of the British West Indies to those of Cuba or the Brazils, the rice of Patras or Java to that of Carolina, the cocoa of Trinidad or Grenada to that of Brazil. But the friends of the free-labour movement have chiefly endeavoured to promote the cultivation and supply of cotton by voluntary and remunerated industry, as the most effectual means of competing with the American slaveholder, and wounding him to the quick. There are great difficulties in the way of this enterprise; but they are not insurmountable, and already some wholesale mercantile houses have placed themselves in a condition to supply free-labour goods to retail tradesmen. Moist sugar, coffee, and rice, the produce of voluntary labour, may be obtained from any wholesale house; loaf sugar, from Startin and Fry, London; prints for ladies' dresses, Crewdson's fine shirtings, Morris's white and grey calicoes, coloured glazed linings, sewing cottons, tapes, &c., from J. F. Browne and Co., Manchester; white and gray calicoes, knitting cottons, &c., from Barrow and Satterthwaite, Lancaster; hosiery, from J. and R. Morley, Wood-street, Cheap-side, London; Strutt's three-thread knitting cottons, from Burtenshaw and Gaude, London. In Newcastle, Richardson and Coxon, and Mr. Charles Bragg, and at Gateshead Mr. F. Clark, drapers, keep free-labour goods; and other tradesmen will doubtless also procure them—and the more readily, if their fair customers ask for them.

To induce our countrywomen, on whom the success of this movement mainly (we might say altogether) depends, to make this request—to desire shopkeepers to serve them with goods that have been freely procured for market wages, in preference to those the slaveholder has raised by the labour of his bondsmen—not only, as we have already stated, has the press been set in motion, but Mr. Highland Garnet, a coloured gentleman, of pure African descent, born in slavery, has been induced to visit this country, and appeal from the platform for sympathy and support. His arrival in this country was announced in a previous number of the *Gateshead Observer*, and we have now to report his first appearance before a public meeting. This was held on Monday evening, the 16th inst., in the Wesleyan school-room, Gateshead—the most spacious apartment in the borough, yet crowded from end to end. A hymn having been sung, prayer was offered up by the Rev. Mr. Rattray, of Swalwell, and the Rev. T. K. Anderson, Presbyterian minister, was called upon to take the chair.

Mr. GARNET was most kindly and cordially received, when he rose to address the meeting. After a few words of introduction, he stated that he appeared before an English audience, on behalf of an oppressed and injured race, on the continents of America and Africa, and of countless numbers on the islands of the ocean, who lifted up their fettered hands to Heaven, and prayed for liberty. He was there as their advocate, not only because he was of the same race—every drop of blood in his veins being African—but also because he was a man. Mr. Garnet read a letter—one of the last letters ever written by John Wesley—which was on the subject of slavery, and was addressed to William Wilberforce, animating him to renewed zeal and courage in his philanthropic enterprise, and stigmatising American as the worst form of slavery which had ever existed under the sun. The institution thus justly described by Mr. Wesley had now three millions of victims; or, in other words, there were as many human beings held in bondage in the United States as there were inhabitants—men, women, and children—in all Scotland. And the physical horrors of slavery, on which it was not his intention to dwell, were not its worst and most appalling consequences. Its moral effects were still more fearful and lamentable. Yet of these the slaveholder was accustomed to make his boast. When he had blotted out from his victim the natural, inborn love of liberty; when he had extinguished within him all those high and holy aspirations and affections which gave dignity to human nature; then, with his foot upon the neck of his prostrate slave, he exulted in his work, and proudly proclaimed that the crouching and abject serf was content! But, as a class, they were not content. If they were, how came it that thousands of them fled the house of bondage? The slaveholder bitterly complained of the loss of his property, he was angry that they sought and found an asylum in Canada, that, flying from the shadow of the Republic, they took refuge under the shelter of the English Monarchy. But what would have become of the United States, if the forty thousand negroes now in Canada had been retained in bonds? Canada, in fact, was the safety-valve of American slavery, the protection of the Republic from a destructive explosion. Thither it was that the aspiring negro, whose resolve was liberty or death, directed his fugitive feet; and woe to the United States, if no such asylum existed for the mounting and untameable spirits of his (Mr. Garnet's) race! Virginia and Maryland, Mr. Garnet stated, were States whose chief exports were slaves; and the average duration of an exported negro's life did not exceed from five to seven years. Mr. Garnet exhibited one of the whips wielded by the drivers; a whip, he said, which had frequently been used in lashing men and women. He also produced the chains imposed upon the necks and limbs of the slaves. But, he said, for these he was indebted, not to America, but to England. Yes! Birmingham was the place in which the shackles were forged which the man-stealer placed upon his prey. But let the forgers beware! Lord Brougham, in 1840, obtained a law, which made it felony to aid and abet the slave-trade; and the men who made these chains, and who were well known, might be transported. While America built the fleetest vessels in the world—the Baltimore clippers—to waft the poor negro from slavery, Portugal and Spain supplied the crews, and England wove the fabrics that were given in exchange for the captive African, and forged his chains. A rude song, said to be the composition of a slave, was frequently sung in the United States, on the occasion of processions of the captured gangs. He (Mr.

Garnet) had no pretensions to be considered a vocalist, but he would sing the words :—

See these poor souls from Africa
Transported to America.
We are stolen and sold to Georgia;
Will you go along with me?
We are stolen, and sold to Georgia;
Come sound the jubilee!
See wives and husbands sold apart;
Their children's screams will break my heart.
There's a better day a-coming;
Will you go along with me?
There's a better day a-coming;
Go sound the jubilee!
O, gracious Lord! when shall it be
That we poor souls shall all be free?
Lord, break them slavery powers;
Will you go along with me?
Lord, break them slavery powers;
Go sound the jubilee!
Dear Lord! dear Lord! when slavery'll cease,
Then we poor souls will have our peace.
There's a better day a-coming;
Will you go along with me?
There's a better day a-coming;
Go sound the jubilee!

(These simple lines, set to a plaintive air, produced a marked impression on the meeting.) Mr. Garnet proceeded to say, that the only way in which Britain could legitimately assist in the emancipation of the American slave, was by argument; and the most powerful argument would be the discontinuance, as far as possible, of the consumption of slave-labour products. A former generation gave up, for the sake of the negro, the use of slave-grown sugar; and this was done when free-labour sugar was not to be had. A less sacrifice was now demanded of the British public. It was simply asked of them to prefer free-labour to slave-labour sugar, coffee, cotton, rice, &c. This, he believed, they would many of them do. He had been encouraged at Frankfort, while visiting that city as a delegate to the Peace Congress, by the request of the chief magistrate, that an anti-slavery meeting should be held. This suggestion was carried out, and it was resolved that free labour-stores should be established in Germany. Mr. Garnet exhibited cottons and cotton prints, the products of free labour, now on sale in Newcastle, Gateshead, and elsewhere. There were British colonies, he said, which could produce cotton with even more advantage than the United States; and he trusted that every encouragement would be given by Britons to this branch of British industry. Mr. G., of whose address we give but a bare outline, resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

We find that we have omitted to allude to one of the dark features of American slavery, presented by Mr. Garnet—the law by which the negro child is bound to follow the fortunes, not of its father, but of its mother. If the mother was born free, so was the child. The motive of the law maker was obvious. If, the father being free, the child was free also, the licentious slaveholder would lose much “property.” It was, therefore, decreed that the child must be a slave, if its mother was a slave; and hence there were many men and women in bondage who were as fair as any of the ladies and gentlemen whom he had the honour of addressing. In illustration of this portion of his lecture, Mr. Garnet exhibited several daguerreotype portraits of fugitive slave girls, “guiltless of a skin not coloured like our own;” yet all the Saxon blood that circles in their veins does not atone, in the eye of the American, for the slight remaining taint of the African.

At the close of the meeting, a collection was made in aid of its object; and thanks having been voted to Mr. Anderson, and to the trustees for the use of the room, a benediction was pronounced, and the proceedings closed.—*Gateshead Observer*, Sept. 21.

SLAVE-TRADE TREATIES.

On Thursday, the 26th of September last, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Glasgow, called by the Lord Provost, in compliance with a numerous and influentially signed requisition, was held in the City Hall, for the purpose of considering the propriety of adopting resolutions, and appointing a committee to prepare petitions to the legislature, in favour of enforcing the treaties ratified between Great Britain, Spain, and Brazil, for the suppression of the slave-trade.

Shortly after seven o'clock the following gentlemen, among many others, entered the Hall, and took their places on the platform :—The Hon. Sir James Anderson, Lord Provost; Alexander Hastie, Esq., M.P., John Macgregor, Esq., M.P., Rev. Dr. King, Rev. Dr. William Symington, Rev. George Blyth, Rev. Mr. William Anderson, Rev. Dr. Buchanan, Rev. William Arnot, Rev. Dr. Lorimer, Rev. R. Jeffrey, Rev. James Patterson, John Henderson, Esq., of Park, Henry Dunlop, Esq., of Craigton, James Turner, Esq., of Thrushgrove, J. Mitchell, Esq., W. P. Paton, Esq., Charles Baird, Esq., Nathaniel Stevenson, Esq., Robert Kettle, Esq., Mr. W. Smeal, &c.

John Henderson, Esq., of Park, moved, amid loud applause, that the Lord Provost should take the chair.

[We regret that the late hour at which we received the report of the proceedings, when our space was completely filled up, prevents us from giving more than the resolutions and the petition adopted.]

The first resolution was moved by Dr. Symington, and seconded by Mr. William Smeal, and is as follows :—

“That while this meeting is gratified to know that slavery has been abolished by the great majority of civilised nations, it deeply laments the continuance of that system in the United States of America, in Brazil, and the colonies of Spain, and regards it as condemned alike by religion, justice, humanity, and sound policy.”

The second resolution was moved by the Rev. Dr. King, and seconded by Henry Dunlop, Esq., viz. :—

“That this meeting regards, with feelings of deep regret, the continuance of the slave-trade by the subjects, and even by the connivance of the officials of Spain and Brazil; and this meeting is of opinion that the time has now fully come, when the honour of the British nation, as well as the claims of righteousness and benevolence, require that our Government should insist upon the treaties which have been entered into with Spain and Brazil being carried into immediate effect.”

The third resolution was moved by John Macgregor, Esq., M.P., and seconded by the Rev. George Blyth, viz. :—

“That this meeting is of opinion that the depression and distress of our West India colonies have been greatly aggravated by the non-observance of the slave-trade treaties on the part of Spain and Brazil, and that some of the best results anticipated from colonial emancipation have been frustrated by the continuance of the slave traffic.”

The fourth resolution was moved by A. Hastie, Esq., M.P., and seconded by Mr. R. Baird, viz. :—

“That this meeting regards the present as a fitting time for bringing prominently before the British public the continued existence of the slave-trade, as well as for enlisting the sympathies and energies of the Government of Great Britain, of the United States of America, of France, of Denmark, and of other countries which have already condemned the infamous traffic, in a vigorous combined effort for the effectual suppression of a system so abhorrent to every sentiment of religion and humanity.”

The whole of these resolutions were adopted by the meeting. The following are the petition and the list of the committee :—

“To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom in Parliament assembled.

“The Petition of the inhabitants of Glasgow,

“Humbly Showeth,—That your petitioners deeply regret that, notwithstanding the humane enactments, expensive schemes, and treaties with foreign nations, which have been resorted to for the suppression of the slave-trade, that traffic is still carried on to an enormous extent, and under circumstances of great atrocity. That the system is repugnant to humanity, and operates injuriously in defeating the beneficent results that would otherwise have ensued from the emancipation of their slaves by Great Britain, and others of the civilised nations of Europe.

“That your petitioners approve of the treaties entered into by Great Britain with Spain, Portugal, and Brazil, for the suppression of this inhuman trade.

“That your petitioners, therefore, earnestly request that such measures may be adopted as may secure the execution of these treaties, especially that the foreign trade in slaves be effectually suppressed, and that those Africans who are illegally retained in bondage, contrary to solemn engagements, be instantly set free.

“That your petitioners, however, regret that, although Great Britain has paid large sums, and made great concessions in fulfilment of her stipulated engagements, others of the contracting parties have entirely failed in fulfilling the conditions undertaken on their part.

“That your petitioners cannot consider the great work of emancipation as satisfactorily completed, until these treaties be carried into full effect, and the unjust competition with our own colonies be brought to a final termination.

“May it therefore please your honourable House to adopt such measures as you in your wisdom may see fit, for the enforcement of the slave-trade treaties entered into with Spain and Brazil; and your petitioners will ever pray.”

Committee.—David Anderson, Robert Baird, Rev. George Blyth, Rev. Dr. Buchanan, William Campbell, William Connell, Rev. Dr. Craik, Humphry E. Crum, Henry Dunlop, David Hamilton, James Hannan, John Henderson, Rev. Dr. Hill, Anderson Kirkwood, Rev. Dr. Paterson, W. P. Paton, John Ronald, Graham Russell, William Smeal, Robert Smith, Nathaniel Stevenson, Rev. Dr. Symington, Rev. Dr. Taylor, Mr. David Hamilton to be convener.

Foreign Intelligence.

BRAZILS.—THE LATE SKIRMISH. — We have received a private letter from Rio, dated the 27th July, which contains some facts relative to the late captures of slavers and the conduct of the populace at Rio. Our correspondent says :—“Public events which have occurred since we last left this place to cruise have caused no small stir. The *Sharp-shooter*, screw-schooner, Lieut. Commander Bailey, took three slavers before she had completed a week's service on the station. The *Cormorant*, 6, steam-sloop, Commander Schomberg, has sent a slaver to St. Helena, and has destroyed four others. The *Tweed*, 18, Commander Lord F. Russell, captured a schooner, which she destroyed. The flagship of Rear-Admiral Reynolds, C.B., the commander-in-chief, *Southampton*, 50, Capt. N. Cory, is now at Rio, with a schooner lying off the bow of the frigate, of which the admiral had intelligence that she was fitted for the slave-trade. I believe the Brazilian Government themselves will detain her. We have four vessels out cruising, two to the southward, and two to the north of Rio. The *Rifeman*, 8, screw-schooner,

Lieut. Commander P. Branch, carried the last mail down to the Mount; so that the admiral is deprived of the services of an efficient vessel. After the *Cormorant* and others had destroyed the vessels referred to in the Brazilian waters (one in Rio Frio, and four at Paranaqua), she came up here (Rio) to repair damages, having sustained a loss of one killed and two wounded. The Government called a meeting of the Assembly, and they are now sitting, and will doubtless come to some resolution, previous to the sailing of the packet, as to the suppression or otherwise of the slave-trade in Brazil. On the first day or two of the excitement our officers on shore were maltreated and stoned by the low populace, at the instigation of the Portuguese, the parties mostly interested in the slave-trade; but our minister soon set these matters right with the Government. When the fever prevailed we were not allowed to land. Rumours are abroad that the fever is breaking out again, and that we are to cruise outside this beautiful harbour, as before."—*Times*.

The *Rio Journal of Commerce* of the 16th of July last contains the statements made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Chamber of Deputies on the preceding day, regarding the slave-trade question, and also the destruction of the fort of Paranaqua by the *Cormorant*. The minister referred to the various delays that had hitherto attended all attempts at negotiation with the British Government, and expressed a hope that the time was approaching when the propositions of Brazil would meet with attention. Without entering, however, into the various practical grievances of which the country had to complain, he would ask the House to look at the subject in a larger way, and to consider whether, when a power like Great Britain had shown her determination to suppress the slave-trade, and had succeeded in enlisting other nations in the undertaking, it would be possible much longer for Cuba and Brazil alone to carry it on. He believed not. England had made treaties with several of the principal chiefs on the African coast, where the trade was conducted, and the spirit of civilisation would not rest until it had completed its work. Perhaps that completion would come at a very early day, and he thought that even supposing it could be deferred for ten, fifteen, or twenty years, it would not be wise for Brazil to aid in thus retarding it. She should rather seek to obtain other labour; and although the extinction of the traffic would produce some shock to the country, they should direct their efforts to neutralise any such result, by measures that would tend to improve the quality of their productions, because 10,000 arrobas of coffee well prepared would be better than 20,000 in an imperfect condition. He believed that the intelligence of the people would lead them to see these points, and to feel that they were quite as important, in bringing about the end in view, as any measures of repression. With regard to the interpolations addressed to him, in connexion with the recent attack by the *Cormorant*, he would simply say, that the Government had directed their forts to oppose, as far as laid in their power, every violence that might be offered to the territory. Proceedings such as those in question could only add to their difficulties. It was necessary they should come to an understanding on other principles, and establish something for the future; and he would add, moreover, that so soon as the measures of these cruisers should terminate, and they should cease to reappear in violation of the Brazilian territory, the Government would then establish means for negotiations, which should be consistent with the national dignity and the interests of the country, while they should, at the same time, give a definite solution to the questions which had inconvenienced and prejudiced it so long. He also assured the House that there was at present no proposition before the Government from Great Britain, whether as regarded a treaty of commerce or the means of suppressing the slave-trade, and that there was a sincere intention on the part of the Brazilian Government to act faithfully on the stipulations of the treaty of 1826, and by that means to assume a moral force, which should entitle them to respect. Loud applause appears to have followed these declarations, and also to have been continued when the Minister finally demanded the unreserved co-operation of the Chamber, in case they should feel that the present Government really possessed the ability to meet in a proper manner all the difficulties of the occasion.

On the 17th of July last, the Chamber of Deputies passed in secret session to the third reading of the law for the suppression of the slave-trade. The following are the most important provisions of the law as it was ultimately voted:—

Art. 3. All Brazilian vessels, wheresoever found, and all foreign vessels found in Brazilian ports, waterings, or anchorages, or the seas appertaining to Brazil, with slaves on board, the importation of whom is prohibited by the law of 7th November, 1831, or which shall have landed such slaves, will be seized by the Brazilian authorities or ships of war, and deemed to be importers of slaves. Such vessels as neither have slaves on board, nor have recently landed them, if they appear to be fitted up for the purposes of the slave-trade, will be apprehended in like manner, and held to be engaged in the attempt to import slaves.

Art. 4. The Imperial Government will issue regulations declaring what appearances are to be deemed presumptions that a vessel is destined to be engaged in the slave-trade.

Art. 5. [The conclusion of this article is to the following effect:]

Parties who assist in the disembarkation of slaves, or who aid in concealing them within the Brazilian territory, or assist in resisting attempts to capture them at sea, or when being landed, will be held to be accomplices.

Art. 6. The importation of slaves into the imperial territory will be held to be piracy, and will be punished by the tribunals by the penalties declared in the 2nd article of the law of Nov. 7, 1831. Attempts to import and complicity will be punished as prescribed in the 34th and 35th articles of the criminal code.

Art. 8. [The first part of this article declares] Vessels described in the third and fourth articles, and all vessels employed in landing, hiding, or carrying away slaves, will be sold, with everything on board, and the proceeds awarded, deducting a fourth part to reward the informant, if any, to meet the expenses of Government, &c.

Art. 9. All slaves who shall be taken in such vessels are to be re-exported at the charge of the Government to the ports whence they were brought, or the most convenient port beyond sea; and in so far as this re-exportation is under the superintendence of Government, their services shall not be conceded to private individuals.

Art. 11. All proceedings against the vessels described in articles three and four, as well as for establishing the liberty of the slaves captured at sea or on shore, or in the act of disembarkation, are to be instituted, in the first instance, in the *auditoria de marinha*, and in the second before the council of state. The Government will issue regulations determining the forms of process to be observed, and may establish a new *auditoria de marinha* in any part where it may seem advisable, appointing to it the judges of the *comarea* in which the part is situated.

Art. 12. The *auditores de marinha* will be competent to exercise jurisdiction in the case of the parties designated in article 5; and the same court of appeal will be open to these parties. All parties liable to the provisions of the law of 7th November, and not included in article 5 of this law, are to be prosecuted before the ordinary tribunals.

By steamer we have dates from Rio de Janeiro to 18th, and Bahia to the 24th of August. The English cruisers continue to take Brazilian vessels suspected of being engaged in the slave-trade, not scrupling to enter harbours, and take them from under the guns of the forts. Considerable excitement exists in Rio de Janeiro in consequence, and particularly from the circumstance of the fort at Paranaqua firing on H.B.M. steamer *Cormorant*, while towing out three slavers; the steamer returned the fire. Several foreigners, mistaken for Englishmen, have been beaten by the Brazilians in the streets of Rio, and the whole affair is before the Assembly.

Public opinion seems to have undergone some change on the subject, and it is supposed that the Brazilian Government will now take steps for the suppression of the slave-trade in earnest. No direct importation of negroes has been made at this port for a long time; but new blacks have frequently arrived from Bahia in coasting vessels, regularly provided with passports, and been sold here, without the least interference on the part of the authorities, although, from the total ignorance of the language, the slaves were known to be recently from the coast. Last week, however, the police seized seventeen blacks thus imported, and imprisoned the consignee; and yesterday, on the arrival of another vessel from Bahia, nine more blacks were apprehended. A continuance of these measures will stop the coastwise slave-trade of this empire altogether.

The fever that has so recently swept the whole coast of Brazil is here nearly extinct at present, for the reason that almost the whole population have had it, and second attacks are rare. Some cases, however, yet exist, and to persons unacclimated, or recently arriving, an attack is almost certain death.

Colonial Intelligence.

JAMAICA.—COTTON CULTIVATION.—We are much pleased to find that considerable attention is being paid at the present time, in our West India islands, to the question of cotton cultivation; and particularly so in Jamaica. The press of the island has been continually urging the matter on the attention of proprietors, and have produced statistics to prove that it would be highly remunerative. We perceive that an association is now being formed, consisting of a few gentlemen, who purpose raising £1000 for the purpose of giving the cultivation of cotton a fair trial. We subjoin extracts on the subject from two of the island papers of an interesting character. The first is from the *Trelawny*, of the 25th of July last, which remarks:—

"We have so frequently urged the necessity of resuming the cultivation of cotton in Jamaica, that we are fearful of being considered prosy upon the subject. But when we consider of what vast importance it is to us that we should become a cotton-growing country, we feel it a duty incumbent on us to keep the question before our readers until our object shall be attained—the cultivation of cotton throughout the island generally. The press of Great Britain teems with accounts of the uncertainty of a continuous supply of cotton from the United States of America, and the fact of the power of the Empire being upheld solely by her being a

manufacturing country. * * Surely, our large landed proprietors in England ought not to let pass by the golden opportunity of enriching our island, and, through it, themselves. We have already discussed, in previous numbers, the relative advantages which we possess as a cotton-growing country over the East Indies.

"We have shipping ports within 10 or 15 miles of each other, with good carriage roads for the transit of the produce of the island thereto—and a climate and country second to none other in the universe for the growth of cotton; yet, with all these advantages, we are incessantly assailed with the cries of 'Ruin! ruin!' when we have a mine of unexplored wealth in the soil, which but requires the hand of industry to bring it forth. In the East Indies, the plains on which cotton is cultivated are in the interior, and surrounded with lofty mountains; and the consequence is, that in the transit of the cotton from the plantation to the shipping port, it becomes so deteriorated in value as to render it an unprofitable source of investment to the agriculturist. We have no such difficulty to contend with in Jamaica. We do not require railways to be established, at an outlay of some hundreds of thousands of pounds, for the carriage of our cotton when ready for shipment. The very capital that would be required for the establishment of railways in the east, would be more than sufficient to establish the West Indies as cotton-producing countries. Then, as to Natal, the samples of cotton produced by Mr. Bergtheil were valued at from 7d. to 14d. per lb., and generally at 9d., while Jamaica cotton has been valued at 1s. per lb. generally, and it has been estimated that, with proper care and attention, we could produce an article that would sell for 1s. 6d. per lb. in the English market.

"But it is not exclusively the benefit which is to be derived from the profits that may arise on the sale of the cotton, which inspires us to press the subject of cotton cultivation on our friends. There are other and higher principles which move us thereunto.

"If we carry out the cultivation of cotton, extensively, throughout the island, we will be laying the foundation of our own future prosperity, as well also as securing the boon of freedom for the slaves that are now held in bondage in foreign countries. And we are led to the latter conclusion from the fact, that with a supply of cotton, produced by the labour of freemen, the manufacturers of Great Britain would lend their influence towards the exclusion of *all slave-grown* produce and manufactures from the British markets."

We extract from the *Colonial Standard* the following remarks on the comparative merits of Jamaica as a cotton-growing colony, called forth by the proceedings at the public meeting held at Kingston, on the 26th ult. :—

"Of the capabilities of Jamaica for the production of cotton we have never expressed a doubt. No one who has lived in it, as we have, for a quarter of a century, could doubt this fact. We have it clearly established, on the authority of Mr. Bazley at the Manchester meeting, that the common indigenous cotton which grows throughout the island, and is to be found in every yard in this city, is worth, at present prices, 1s. a pound; and we learn from Mr. Wright that this very sample was purchased by his firm from the Misses Clarke, of Half-way Tree, by whom it was picked from old trees growing wild and uncultivated about their grass pieces. To doubt the capability of the island in a climaterial sense to produce cotton, therefore, is to doubt our own senses. But we have ventured to suggest a difficulty, which we find became a subject of comment at the meeting yesterday. It has been a question with us how far the production of cotton on a large scale is practicable in the present condition of our labour market. We do not pretend for a moment to set ourselves up as an authority on such a subject. * * But if common uncultivated cotton can be picked in the fields and sold in Manchester at 1s. per pound, there can be no reason why cultivated produce of approved sorts may not be exported at a still higher value. When, therefore, we are promised in one part of the island a production of cotton wool at the rate of £5 per acre, and in another at £7, we are content quietly to receive the estimate, and to hope, as we fervently do, that experience will only prove that it can be obtained at the rate of £10—a rate which we are convinced would abundantly repay any capitalist who embarked in it. We confess, therefore, that amidst many circumstances of difficulty yet to be surmounted, we have great hopes of the success of cotton planting."

WRETCHED CONDITION OF THE COOLIES.—It is, indeed, harrowing to see the hordes of Coolies that infest the streets of Kingston, almost in a state of nudity. Their condition is certainly distressing, and cannot fail to rouse the sympathy of every individual whose heart is not insensible to the sufferings of humanity. As one walks along the streets, he is sure to be pulled by one of these miserable, half-starved creatures, for the purpose of being supplicated for charity. This disgusting system of begging is a complete nuisance, and ought not to be tolerated; and yet, when we consider the object of the applicant, and the state of his situation, propriety gives way to sympathy, and though we condemn the system, we cannot but feel for the sufferer. That some provision ought to be made for these houseless beings, who have been taken from their homes with bright hopes and delusive promises pictured to them, no one can deny; and yet we see them allowed

to roam at large, in a state of abject misery and destitution—starving and dying, from not being able to procure the common necessities of life. It is heart-rending to know that human beings like ourselves, who possess sense and feeling, should be allowed to remain in a state of filth and poverty, to drag through life with all the horrors of misery, and the pangs of starvation. We maintain, it is the duty of those who brought these unhappy creatures hither, to provide for their wants, and see that something is done, by which means they may earn an honest livelihood. If occupation cannot be given to them, or if they are physically disabled, and cannot endure hard labour, then it is equally their duty to send them back as early as they can to their country. But to allow these unfortunate, helpless beings to starve and die like dogs about the streets and lanes, is a criminal act, and a wholesale murder. Had a single individual by any stratagem induced one of these people to leave his home, and then have treated him as the Coolies are treated, the voice of public indignation would have been raised against him, and he would have been branded as a ruffian and a monster; but when things are done by wholesale, by a legitimate and powerful body, no matter what the result may be, no matter how great the injustice committed, there is no advocate of justice to denounce the system; there is no friend of humanity to advocate the cause of the wronged and injured, who, like the unfortunate Coolies, have been made the victims of unrealised promises and disappointed hopes.

It is not many weeks ago that an application was made to the commissioners of accounts, to furnish the means of sending back to their country several of these people, agreeably to the terms of the contract which brought them hither, but no action whatever has been taken on it, and, if we recollect right, the hon. member for St. George (Mr. Girod) was the only member who treated the subject with becoming seriousness.

Some there are who argue that the "Coolies are worthless, and will not work." We admit this to be true in some instances, but generally it will be found that the fault,—the grievous error,—lies in the selection of the people. Hundreds of those sent here are of that class who were never accustomed to the cultivation of the soil, and never will be; but they are here, brought here at our instance, to swell the tide of misery which passes by us everywhere. In God's name, then, let some provision be made to relieve their sufferings, and to remove from the public eye scenes which shock decency and humanity. Sooner or later, the terms of the contract between them and the public must be complied with, and the sooner it is done, or some step taken in the matter, the sooner will those in authority have removed from them the imputation of neglecting an important public duty.—*Jamaica Advertiser*, August 14.

BRITISH GUIANA.—IMMIGRATION, &c.—The following summary of the proceedings of the Court of Policy is taken from the *Colonist* of the 26th of August last :—

The subject of immigration has nearly engrossed all the attention of the Court of Policy during the month. Several ordinances have been passed by the Court, for the promotion of immigration generally, and making alterations in the methods hitherto pursued in dealing with it; also, for making better provision for the captured Americans sent here at the expense of the mother country; and likewise for renewing Coolie immigration, but on a different footing from the former system. The objects professed to be sought in these different enactments are, the better care of the immigrants, by checking idleness and vagrancy, and encouraging industry and good conduct, and the greater advantage of the employers, by endeavouring to secure to them a steady and continuous supply of labour for a definite period on equitable terms.

To many of the details of these measures, as far as they have been made known, public opinion is favourable: abuses and defects existed in previous regulations which required to be remedied, and improvements, suggested by experience, had to be introduced. There are points, however, on which opinions differ, the propriety of some and the prudence of others are questioned, but they are minor matters, not involving serious consequences, with the exception of those relative to the renewal of Coolie immigration.

On this subject considerable distrust and uneasiness unquestionably pervade the community, and so deep is the indignation and disgust at the extravagance and folly manifested on former occasions of Coolie immigration, that its renewal on any terms is decidedly unpopular. The comparative inefficiency of the Coolie labourer, when contrasted with Portuguese or Africans, the great numbers of them who are incorrigible vagrants and idlers, to give their conduct a mild description, would alone suffice to make the community averse to their further introduction, were the cost of their introduction no larger than that of other classes of immigrants; but when we find that the bare cost of bringing them to the colony exceeds eighty dollars per head, and that, at the lowest calculation, other expenses connected with them, including a return passage to India, will swell up the charge to a total of 150 dollars each, for which we get but a five years' residence in the colony, be that industrious or idle, while the more valuable classes of immigrants can be introduced, as permanent settlers, at thirty dollars per head, common sense is shocked at the imprudence of continuing so fearful and extravagant an expenditure in these depressed times.

It is true that the new ordinance endeavours to diminish the objections to Coolie immigration, by making an "industrial" residence of five years, to be calculated by the number of days' labour performed, instead of by a mere portion of time, requisite to the obtaining a back passage, if the East India Company cannot be prevailed upon to waive that condition altogether, and by taxing the immigrants themselves to raise a fund towards defraying that expense; but the regulations for enforcing the "industrial" residence, and for collecting the tax, stringent and ingeniously devised as they are, will, we think, be found impracticable, and, at the best, will produce (at half a dollar a month for five years) but thirty dollars per head—thus leaving at least as much more to be paid by the colony.

Without going, then, to the length that some persons do, who assert the utter worthlessness of former Coolie immigration—for we know that many estates have been upheld by their labour, and combination to raise wages at critical periods of the crop have been defeated by their presence—we arrive at the conclusion that, from their excessive cost and comparative inefficiency, they are the very last class of immigrants who should be sought for; and that as an abundant supply of better classes of labourers can be procured elsewhere, if only a moderate outlay be made and a little activity be exerted, we hope that the feelings of the community here will be deferred to by Earl Grey, and that he will take care that the money wrung from the distressed and over-taxed inhabitants of British Guiana shall be laid out more profitably than by paying, at the lowest, three times as much for transient and inefficient, as for permanent and efficient labourers.

Among the matters introduced, while these ordinances were under consideration, were certain despatches from Earl Grey, enclosing copies of correspondence between the Colonial Land and Immigration Commissioners and Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, and Co., in which these latter gentlemen proposed to carry African emigrants to British Guiana on the following terms:—Contracts to be entered into at Sierra Leone for five years' service at eight pence per day, and Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, and Co., to be bound to provide the immigrants with a return passage at the end of five years; the Africans to be at liberty to choose their own employers on their arrival in the colony, if they should not think proper to enter with those selected by the contractors, or to register themselves as Government immigrants, subject to the payment of monthly dues; the colony guaranteeing their return passage, or, on receiving one pound sterling per head, to relinquish their claim to the return passage. A subsequent despatch from Earl Grey stated that if the Africans objected to the long term of service required in British Guiana, they would have the option of proceeding to St. Lucia or Trinidad. The Court approved of the proposal, stipulating, however, that no back passage should be guaranteed to any immigrants whatever, whether liberated Africans or Kroomen, but that they should be paid, in lieu of it, each one pound sterling.

We had yesterday a small but acceptable arrival of 131 Portuguese immigrants, brought by the schooner *Oliveira*.

During the month the weather has been most propitious for the planters. Showery at intervals, sufficient to ensure active vegetation to the young canes, but not enough to impede taking off the ripe ones. The favourable change in the weather has also materially improved the yield of the canes, and the quality of the juice; both of these fell off largely in the early part of the year, they are now again arrived at a fair average.

BARBADOES.—A highly interesting anti-slavery meeting was held in this island on the 1st of August last, the Chief Justice presiding. Our space will only permit us to give an outline of the proceedings.

Mr. W. H. Austin moved the first resolution—"That this meeting rejoices, with gratitude to Almighty God, at the successful abolition of slavery in these colonies, and the extinction of much wickedness and woe attendant on that monster evil, and ardently desires the universal abolition of the slave-trade and of slavery."—That slavery was a "monster evil" was known by the personal experience of most in that room. He gave some illustrations of what he had himself seen, but declared that, bad as it was, it was better than in the foreign colonies.

The Rev. J. L. Badham, in an eloquent speech, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Joseph Hamilton moved—"That the disuse of slave produce being a potent auxiliary to the great anti-slavery movement, this subject is earnestly pressed on the considerate attention of the friends of freedom, that, as far as practicable, they may try the experiment, and thus promote the good work, and enjoy the satisfaction of using the produce of free labour only."—The disuse of slave produce, he said, as far as practicable, by every friend of humanity, would tend, he believed, to diminish in a great degree the amount of such produce in the markets, and thereby give a moral check to the abominable traffic, by which no less than about 150,000 of their poor suffering fellow-creatures were stolen and torn from their homes and carried into distant countries, where they

were worked as beasts of burden. He considered that the Sugar Act of 1845 had given an impetus to the traffic. It had increased the amount of slave labour—prolonged the existence of slavery itself in the colonies of Spain and in Brazil—and promoted the feeling of cupidity for gain in the breast of the slave dealer, who has no more right to the unrequited labour of his fellow-man than the purchaser of stolen goods has to the articles of which he is found in possession. But he hoped that something would soon be done by the Government and Parliament of Great Britain to remedy this great moral evil.

Mr. J. Y. Edghill, in seconding the resolution, showed that the disuse of slave produce, and not the British squadron, was a grand means of rendering slave labour unproductive, and thus suppressing the African slave-trade. Here was a practical mode of evincing their sincerity in the anti-slavery cause. This island had contributed, for the last five years, some £16,000 or £17,000 sterling towards the perpetuation of slavery in Brazil and Cuba, by using the sugar of those countries, sent hither from the refineries of England. How much they had helped the slaveholders of America by the use of rice, tobacco, &c., &c., he was not able to say, from the late hour at which the resolution had been put into his hand. If they cried in one breath against slavery, and in the other asked for refined slave sugar, and rice, produced by slave labour, the slaveholder would laugh at them. Their life and practice must be consistent with their preaching. Barbadoes could reject these articles from daily use, and substitute for them her own free produce, and the fault was in the inhabitants themselves if it were not done. He was for abolishing slavery by all moral means, and here was one which was within the reach of all. If the people of England had adopted it when that country supported the slave-trade, it was not too much to ask, or expect, the people of Barbadoes to adopt it now.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. S. J. Prescod moved the third resolution—"That the friends of freedom in the United States of America are entitled to, and are hereby assured of, the hearty sympathy of the anti-slavery people of Barbadoes; and that the practice which obtains in the southern States, of arresting and confining in prison the free coloured subjects of Great Britain, should be protested against by every class of her Majesty's subjects in this hemisphere."—He paid a handsome tribute to the abolitionists of America, who were second only to our own Clarkson and Wilberforce. That they were entitled to the sympathy and the prayers of the friends of freedom, was well known to those who had any acquaintance with the iniquitous system that prevailed in the States. To the second part of the resolution he spoke at considerable length. He mentioned two cases of natives of Barbadoes being confined in prison in Charleston, and dwelt upon the case recently published in England, and brought before the House of Commons by Mr. Cockburn. At Lord Palmerston's reply he expressed himself very indignantly. It was clear that in America a man, for no other crime than having African blood in his veins, might be taken from under the British flag and subjected to imprisonment, or even reduced to slavery. Lord Palmerston had recently endangered the peace of Europe to obtain for Englishmen their property that had been invaded, but he coolly told the British subjects of these colonies that their liberty would not be protected by him. He (Mr. Prescod) should never place himself in circumstances to be put in prison in America; but he did not know what accident might compel him to put in there; and if he ever found himself in any of the southern States, he should be conscious that he was not to expect protection from England's Minister. In those circumstances he should rely only on his own resources, and remember that it was better to die a free man than live a slave.

Mr. A. Barclay briefly seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

After thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following subscriptions have been received since our last, and are hereby thankfully acknowledged:—

	Donations.			Subscriptions.		
<i>London.</i> —Allen, Stafford.....	—	—	—	1	1	0
Masters, H. W.	—	—	—	1	1	0
Peck, James.....	—	—	—	1	1	0
Sterry, Henry	—	—	—	3	3	0
<i>Birmingham.</i> —Ladies' Negro Friend Society ..	20	0	0	—	—	—
Sturge, Joseph.....	50	0	0	—	—	—
<i>Bristol.</i> —Eaton, Joseph	50	0	0	—	—	—
Thomas, Edward.....	50	0	0	—	—	—
Thomas, George	50	0	0	—	—	—
<i>Liverpool.</i> —Negro Friend Society	—	—	—	6	6	0
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<i>Olney.</i> —Smith, A. H.	—	—	—	3	0	0
<i>York.</i> —Ladies' Negro Friend Society.....	5	0	0	—	—	—